

Ecuador Cases, 1970-2012

Last Updated: 8 May 2019

torg	gname	onset	min	max
T781	PARTIDO COMUNISTA MARXISTA LENINISTA DEL ECUADOR (PCMLE)		0	0
T412	FARC [ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FORCES OF COLOMBIA]		1964	2012
T69	MOVIMIENTO 19 DE ABRIL (M-19)		1976	1997
T1281	RUMINAHUI FRONT		1983	1983
T977	ALFARO LIVES, DAMN IT		1983	1991
T747	JOTEROS		1984	0
T1818	MONTONEROS PATRIA LIBRE		1986	1989
T1838	NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (ECUADOR)		1989	2000
T1723	GRUPO LIBERTAD		1992	1992
T1732	HEROES OF CANTO GRANDE		1992	1992
T1873	POPULAR DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MPD)		1992	1992
T195	GROUP OF POPULAR COMBATANTS		1993	2000
T521	UNITED SELF-DEFENSE GROUP OF COLOMBIA		1997	2009
T372	MILICIAS REVOLUCIONARIAS DEL PUEBLO (MRP)		1998	2003
T157	ECUADORIAN REBEL FORCE		2001	0
T411	CUERPO ARMADO REVOLUCIONARIO (CAR)		2001	0
T532	WHITE LEGION (ECUADOR)		2001	2003
T83	ARMED REVOLUTIONARY LEFT		2004	0
T1954	REVOLUTIONARY INSURGENT ARMED		2011	2011

	FORCES OF ECUADOR			
--	-------------------	--	--	--

I. PARTIDO COMUNISTA MARXISTA LENINISTA DEL ECUADOR (PCMLE)

Torg ID: 781

Min. Group Date: 0

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Group of Popular Combatants." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3659. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwpEfUoZxcDA/edit>
- GTD Perpetrator 929. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=929>
- United States Department of State, U.S. Department of State Country Reports on Terrorism 2006 - Ecuador, 30 April 2007, available at:
<https://www.refworld.org/docid/4681087d19.html>
- United States Department of State, U.S. Department of State Country Reports on Terrorism 2004 - Ecuador, 27 April 2005, available at:
<https://www.refworld.org/docid/4681080623.html>
- United States Department of State, Country Reports on Terrorism 2010 - Ecuador, 18 August 2011, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/4e52482dc.html>
- United Kingdom: Home Office, Ecuador Country Assessment, October 2000, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/486a53210.html> (p. 12)
- "Group of Popular Combatants emerged after student protests." El Universo. 2013.
<https://www.eluniverso.com/2013/01/20/1/1355/gcp-surgio-tras-protestas-estudiantiles.html>
- "Who are the Popular Combatants?" El Comercio. 2012.
<https://www.elcomercio.com/actualidad/seguridad/que-son-combatientes-populares.html>
- "Supuesto miembro del GCP poseía un cheque del MPD." El Telegrafo. 2012.
<https://www.eltelegrafo.com.ec/noticias/zoo/1/supuesto-miembro-del-gcp-poseia-un-cheque-del-mpd>
- Dennis M. Hanratty, ed. "Other Parties in Ecuador." *Ecuador: A Country Study*. Washington: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1989.
<http://countrystudies.us/ecuador/66.htm>

- GTD Perpetrator 1797. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1797>

*political wing is the Democratic People's Movement and the armed wing is the Group of Popular Combatants

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador, PCMLE (MIPT 2008), Group of Popular Combatants (MIPT 2008), Grupo de Combatientes Populares (MIPT 2008), Group of People's Fighters (MIPT 2008), People's Combatant Group (MIPT 2008)

Group Formation: 1972 (Hanratty 1989) OR 1992 (El Comercio 2012) OR 1993 or 1997 (United Kingdom: Home Office 2000)

Group End: 2011 (El Universo 2013)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group's formation is contested. One source claims the PCE formed as a splinter of one of the oldest Communist parties in Ecuador, the Ecuadorian Communist Party in 1964 or 1972 (Hanratty 1989). It renamed itself the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Ecuador because of its ideology (United States Department of State 2007; United States Department of State 2005; United Kingdom: Home Office 2000; Hanratty 1989).

The group's first known violent attack is in 1992 when the political wing conducted an attack in Cuenca, Ecuador (GTD 2018). The group could have also emerged in 1992 when they called for change in a time of social struggle (El Comercio 2012). Another source says the group allegedly formed on November 15, 1994, but this could also be the date of one of the group's initial attacks (MIPT 2008). Another story says that the group formed after the death of Freddy Arias sometime in 1995 in a movement of student protest (El Universo 2013).

The group aligned itself with many of the minority ethnic groups in Ecuador, including the indigenous, black, impoverished, and youth of the area (El Comercio 2012). The group usually leaves pamphlets at the sites of its bombings, which describe justifications of their attacks, which include criticism towards President Guiterrez's economic policies, Plan Colombia, the president of Colombia, Ecuadorian oligarchs, and the government (MIPT 2008). The group came to prominence after bombings and threats made in 1997

(El Universo 2013). The group is center-seeking and sought to take down the government (El Telegrafo 2012)

Geography

The group does not seem to have conducted any transnational attacks, but its members repeatedly crossed the border between Ecuador and Colombia for drug trafficking under the guise of seeking rest and resupply (US Department of State 2007). The group has conducted attacks in the cities of Guayaquil and Quito (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

The group has a military faction called the People's Fighter Group (MIPT 2008). The group also has a political wing called the Popular Democratic Movement (GTD 2018). The PFG is estimated to have had 200 members at an undated point in time and primarily consisted of students (United States Department of State 2007; United States Department of State 2005; United Kingdom: Home Office). The students were trained in small arms and detonating pamphlet bombs (United State Department of State 2007). The group's military faction is allegedly based in Cuenca (MIPT 2008). At least 30 training camps of factions of the group have been discovered on the border of Ecuador (US Department of State 2007). The group does not seem to be transnational, but its members have crossed the border between Ecuador and Colombia under the guise of seeking rest and resupply to possibly traffick narcotics (GTD 2018; US Department of State 2007).

External Ties

The group allegedly received military training from the Colombian National Liberation Army and Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (MIPT 2008).

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for a bombing in a park in 1997, which is the first known attack of the group (GTD 2018). In 2000, the group planted a bomb in a videotape which they sent to a television network in Guayaquil as a threat to stop being so pro-government (GTD 2018). It should be noted that the National Liberation Army also claimed responsibility for this attack (GTD 2018). The group was responsible for sending another videotape bomb to Marcos Murillo, an indigenous rights leader (GTD 2018). The group usually leaves pamphlets at the sites of its bombings, which describe justifications of their attacks, which include criticism towards President Guterrez's economic policies, Plan Colombia, the president of Colombia, Ecuadorian oligarchs, and the government (MIPT 2008).

The Ecuadorian government has pushed back against this group by guarding the border more as well as collaborated with the US to crack down on narcoterrorism along the border (US Department of State 2007; United States Department of State 2011). This has resulted in the arrest of the senior official of FARC, a sector of the group (United States Department of State 2005; United States Department of State 2011). In 2010, the Popular Combatants sector of the group claimed responsibility for an undetonated bomb in support of the University Students of Daniel Cuellar movement in the face of recent elections, who disavowed the action; the group then went on to say that the device had actually been placed by rightist police to discredit the group (United States Department of State 2011). The group is responsible for bomb blasts at the Bishop's conference and at 2 bus stations in Quito in 1998, as well as violence at student protests in 1999 (United Kingdom: Home Office 2000). Ten members of the group were detained after the 2011 bombing (El Universo 2013). There have been no additional attacks since 2011.

Notes for Iris:

- the formation date is super confusing!
- seems like most likely story is 1972 formation, 1992 violent attack and either different wings of the group form in 1994 or there's some measurement error
- what happens to the group between 1998-1999 and 2011? There was a larger crackdown along the Ecuador-Colombian border during this period which reduced the group's capabilities. The president Gutierrez also launched economic policies during this period which might have addressed the group's grievances during this period.
- the group is active on both sides of the border because they might partially fund themselves using narcoterrorism

II. FARC [ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FORCES OF COLOMBIA]

Torg ID: 412

Min. Group Date: 1964

Max. Group Date: 2012

Onset: NA

Aliases: Revolutionary Armed Forces Of Colombia (Farc), Armed Revolutionary Forces Of Colombia (Farc), Bolivarian Movement For A New Colombia, Farc, Farc [Armed Revolutionary Forces Of Colombia], Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias De Colombia - Ejercito Del Pueblo (Farc-Ep), Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias De Colombia (Farc)

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Who are the FARC?" BBC, 2016, <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-36605769>
- Martha Crenshaw. "Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia - People's Army." Mapping Militant Organizations. Last Updated 2015. <http://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/view/89>

- Danielle Renwick and Claire Felter. “Colombia’s Civil Conflict.” Council on Foreign Relations. 2017. <http://www.cfr.org/colombia/colombias-civil-conflict/p9272>
- “FARC.” Insight Crime. Last Updated 2017. <http://www.insightcrime.org/colombia-organized-crime-news/farc-profile>
- “The guerrilla groups in Colombia.” UN Regional Information Center for Western Europe. <http://www.unric.org/en/colombia/27013-the-guerrilla-groups-in-colombia>
- “Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia.” Mackenzie Institute. 2015. <http://mackenzieinstitute.com/fuerzas-armadas-revolucionarias-de-colombia-farc-2/>
- “Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia.” Para-Military Groups Latin America. Global Security. No Date. <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/farc.htm>
- “Profile: Colombia’s Armed Groups.” BBC. 2013. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-11400950>
- GTD EventID 19960706001, Global Terrorism Database, START Project, Last Modified June 2016, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/IncidentSummary.aspx?gtidid=199607060001>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Southern Bloc, Ejército del Pueblo

Group Formation: 1964 (new)

Group End (Outcome): 2017 (disarm)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The FARC formed in 1964 as the armed wing of the Colombian Communist Party (BBC 2016). Responding to the “La Violencia” period and the Marquetalia Massacre, the group sought to overthrow the central government (Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015). The FARC’s primary grievances were income inequality and perceived discrimination against rural communities by the Colombian government (BBC 2016; Crenshaw 2015). The group follows a Marxist-Leninist ideology (BBC 2016). Its first violent attack occurred in 1964 after the Marquetalia Massacre (Crenshaw 2015).

Geography

The group primarily operates in rural areas in Colombia (BBC 2016). It controls territory in eastern and southern Colombia (BBC 2013). This includes the departments of Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Nariño, Chocó, and Antioquia (InSight Crime n.d.). It originally operated out of their stronghold in Marquetalia, Tolima (InSight Crime n.d.).

The FARC is a transnational group and has a presence in Peru, Ecuador, Venezuela, Mexico, and Panama (Crenshaw 2015). It receives sanctuary in Venezuela, Panama, and Ecuador (Global Security n.d.). FARC perpetrated one attack in Iquitos, Peru in 1996 (GTD 2016).

Organizational Structure

Manuel Marulanda and Jacob Arenas founded FARC in 1964. In 2016, Rodrigo Londono Echeverri led the group. The FARC recruits farmers, peasants, and other “land workers” as fighters. Recruits include both men and women. There are disputed reports about whether it recruits members forcibly (BBC 2016). Approximately 20-30% of FARC members are minors when they join (Mackenzie Institute 2015). When it started in 1964, the group had approximately 50 members, but this figure quickly grew (Crenshaw 2015; InSight Crime n.d.). The group had approximately 18,000 fighters in 1999; 20,000 fighters in 2002; and 6,000-7,000 fighters in 2016 (Crenshaw 2015; BBC 2016). Furthermore, FARC relies on a large cadre of civilian support which numbers or possibly outnumbers the total active fighters it has (BBC 2016).

The group has a political wing known as the Patriotic Union, which it created in 1985 to participate in legislative elections (Crenshaw 2015). The political wing fell apart due to a series of high-profile assassinations and kidnappings of UP members during the 1980s and early 1990s (Crenshaw 2015). The group is organized regionally into small platoon-like divisions, which are organized into regional brigades (BBC 2016). The group has a very hierarchical structure (InSight Crime n.d.). There is a leadership council composed of a dozen individuals known as the High Command or Secretariat group (Mackenzie Institute 2015; BBC 2016). One senior military commander is Jorge Briceno (Global Security n.d.).

The group primarily funds itself through extortion, drug trafficking, and kidnapping (Crenshaw 2015; BBC 2016). One report estimates that it collects \$150-500 million per year from drug trafficking (InSight Crime n.d.; Renwick and Felter 2017; UN n.d.).

External Ties

The group fought against Colombian paramilitary groups, including Death to Kidnappers and the United Self-Defense Force of Colombia (Crenshaw 2015). There are conflicting reports about FARC’s relationship with the ELN. Although the FARC fought against ELN from 2005-2009, the FARC cooperated with and received support from the ELN during an unknown time frame (InSight Crime n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015).

FARC received funding from Cuba and Venezuela (Crenshaw 2015). Chavez was a well-known advocate for FARC and lobbied for it to be recognized as “belligerents,”

which provides certain international legal protections (Global Security n.d.; Crenshaw 2015).

The FARC has allegedly “been in contact and worked together in the drug trade” with Shining Path in Peru (Crenshaw 2015). The group may also coordinate bomb training techniques with the IRA and Sinn Fein (Global Security n.d.).

The FARC was a member of the Simon Bolivar Guerrilla Coordinating Board, which was an umbrella group of Marxist groups in Latin America, from 1987 to 1991. Members included ELN, EPL, and M-19 (Crenshaw 2015).

Group Outcome

The FARC initially emerged from the Marquetalia Massacre. It engages police, military, and pro-government paramilitary forces (BBC 2016). In 1982, the group and the Colombian government held their first peace talks, which resulted in the Uribe Accords (Crenshaw 2015). The resulting ceasefire fell apart when private Colombian citizens began creating their own right-wing paramilitary groups (Crenshaw 2015).

In 2002, President Alvaro Uribe launched an intense and highly successful counterinsurgency offensive against the FARC (BBC 2013). Although the group remained intact for many years, the death of key leaders and Plan Colombia (the U.S. plan to train and equip Colombian security forces) severely damaged the group’s capacity to fight (BBC 2016). FARC leader Manuel Marulanda died in 2008, and his successor, Alfonso Cano, died soon after in 2011 (BBC 2016). In 2008, Colombian forces also killed Raul Reyes, a military leader and influential member in the Secretariat (Crenshaw 2015).

The demobilization and deaths of many fighters eventually led the FARC to renew peace talks with the Colombian government in 2012 (BBC 2013; BBC 2016). The group signed a formal ceasefire agreement with the Colombian government in June 2016 (Global Security n.d.)

III. MOVIMIENTO 19 DE ABRIL (M-19)

Torg ID: 69

Min. Group Date: 1976

Max. Group Date: 1997

Onset: NA

Aliases: M-19 (Movement Of April 19), 19 April Movement, April 19 Movement, April 19 Movement (M-19), M-19, Movimiento 19 De Abril, Movimiento 19 De Abril (M-19)

Part 1. Bibliography

- “April 19 Movement.” Terrorist Organization Profile No. 26, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dbf5n9nS6k1aWmypsBAxszbOxLRHBaDvklRdprXFMPY/edit>
- Martha Crenshaw, “April 19 Movement,” Mapping Militant Organizations. 2015. <http://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/view/91>
- Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta. “The Medellin Cartel/M-19 Gang.” Washington Post. 1988. https://www.washingtonpost.com/archive/opinions/1988/08/28/the-medellin-cartelm-19-gang/625e17fe-95f6-4d47-b488-7080497f2004/?utm_term=.5266228976e2
- Jones, Seth G., and Martin C. Libicki. *How Terrorist Groups End: Lessons for Countering al Qaeda*. The RAND Corporation, 2008. 150. http://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG741-1.pdf
- Terrorist Organization Profile No. 26, MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.
- United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Colombia: Information on the Former Guerrilla Group M-19, 25 March 2003, COL03002.OGC, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/414eee264.html> [accessed 4 January 2017]
- “M-19.” Idaho State University. n.d. <http://www2.isu.edu/~andesean/M19.htm>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: ADM-19, Acción Democrática-Movimiento 19 (Democratic Action-Movement 19), ADM-19, Alianza Democrática M-19, Democratic Alliance M-19

Group Formation: 1972/1973

Group End (Outcome): 1989 (disarm, create a political party)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

M-19 formed between 1972 and 1973 in Colombia in response to what members perceived as a “stolen” presidential election (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The group retroactively declared its birth as April 19, 1970 (Idaho State n.d.). The group fought to overthrow the government and replace the leader they believed had stolen a previous election (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003; Crenshaw 2015). The group first came to attention for a series of violent robberies in 1973 and the January 1974 robbery of Simon Bolivar’s sword (Crenshaw 2015). The group ascribed to Marxism-Leninism and a populist ideology (Crenshaw 2015).

Geography

The group primarily operated in Colombian cities (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The group's operations concentrated in the Southern front in Putomayo and Western front in Caldas, Cauca, Valle de Cauca, Quindio, and Tolima (Crenshaw 2015). The group is tied to one attack in Lima, Peru, where it kidnapped an Italian diplomat. However, there is no evidence of other violent activities in Peru or other countries beyond Colombia (GTD).

Organizational Structure

One of the group's leader - Jaime Bateman Cayon - was a former member of FARC. Ivan Marino Ospina also had a leadership role in the movement. Alvaro Fayad was the group's chief military and political strategist (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

Members came from middle to upper middle class backgrounds and included university students, unions, doctors, and families with ties to the government (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). The organization had approximately 1,500-2,000 members in 1985. These numbers decreased to 500 in 1987 (Crenshaw 2015).

The group's political wing, the ADM-19, later splintered and became a legitimate political party (Crenshaw 2015).

The M-19 organized itself along two military fronts: one in the south of Colombia and the other in the west. The group subdivided the fronts into smaller units, which operated in different cities (Idaho State University n.d.).

The group funded itself through drug trafficking and kidnapping (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

External Ties

The group fought MAS, a paramilitary group that participated in drug trafficking (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

The group received military training in guerrilla warfare from Cuba (Crenshaw 2015).

Group Outcome

In 1980, the Colombian army arrested M-19 leader Jaime Bateman, which triggered an Embassy hostage crisis in Bogota (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1984, the Colombian government negotiated a disarmament deal with several factions, which led to the creation of the ADM-19 political group (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1985, when the political agreement fell apart, the Colombian government launched a major counterinsurgency offensive against the M-19 in Bogota (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003). In 1987, security forces killed Alvaro Fayad, which hurt the group's ability to continue operations (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

In 1989, the government and M-19 negotiated a secondary political agreement. The agreement led most members to disarm by 1990. Many former M-19 members joined the ADM-19 political group (US Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services 2003).

IV. RUMINAHUI FRONT

Torg ID: 1281

Min. Group Date: 1983

Max. Group Date: 1983

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 3220. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified June 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=3220>
- LATINS IN TURMOIL OVER INSURGENTS. 1983. Philadelphia Daily News, Apr 27, 1983. <https://search.proquest.com/docview/1814249355?accountid=14026> (accessed May 14, 2019).

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: N/A

Group Formation: 1983 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 1983 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

It is unknown when the group formed, but it first came to attention as a violent group in 1983 (GTD 2018; Philadelphia Daily News 1983). A group of alleged protestors seized the Honduran Embassy, kidnapped 3 diplomats, and demanded political recognition for the insurgents fighting against the El Salvador regime (Philadelphia Daily News 1983). The group demanded political recognition for the insurgents fighting against the US-supported El Salvador regime (Philadelphia Daily News 1983). Not much else is known about the formation of the group.

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational, as its one recorded incident occurred in the Honduran Embassy in Quito (GTD 2018; Philadelphia Daily News 1983).

Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of the group is unknown.

External Ties

No external ties to the group could be found.

Group Outcome

The group was last considered violent in 1983 when a group of alleged protestors seized the Honduran Embassy, kidnapped 3 diplomats, and demanded political recognition for the insurgents fighting against the US supported El Salvador regime (Philadelphia Daily News 1983). The group has not been heard from since 1983.

Notes for Iris:

-the group seemed to oppose the Honduran government for not doing enough to fight the El Salvador government during the Civil War?

- V. ALFARO LIVES, DAMN IT
Torg ID: 977
Min. Group Date: 1983
Max. Group Date: 1991
Onset: NA

Aliases: Alfaro Lives, Damn It, Alfaro Vive, Alfaro Vive Carajo (Avc)

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2069, Global Terrorism Database, Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, Last Modified June 2016, <http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2069>
- Roberto Jimenez and Tassio Franchi. “¿TERRORISMO EN AMÉRICA DEL SUR? EL CASO DE “ALFARO VIVE CARAJÓ.” 2016. Journal of the Global South. V.7 n. 35. <http://oaji.net/articles/2016/2137-1469025756.pdf>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Information on the Alfaro Vive Carajo guerrilla group in Ecuador, 1 November 1989, ECU2782, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac8758.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ecuador: Information on the AVC (Alfaro Vive Carajo), including whether it still exists, 1 March 1994, ECU16708.E, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6acbc58.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Information on the Alfaro Vive Carajo (AVC) guerrilla group of Ecuador, 1967-1989, 1 November 1989, ECU3076, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac1c10.html>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ecuador: Information on the Alfaro Vive, Carajo (AVC) occupations or attacks on the Costa Rican embassy in October 1984, and on other embassies in 1984 and 1985, and on attacks and occupations by the AVC on radio stations between 1984 and 1987, 1 December 1993, ECU15770.E, available at: <http://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6abb740.html>
- “Alfaro Vive Cavajo: : La guerrilla que conmocionó a Ecuador.” 2015. Resumen. <http://www.resumenlatinoamericano.org/2015/01/03/alfaro-vive-carajo-la-guerrilla-que-conmociono-a-ecuador/>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Any additional aliases you may have encountered

Fuerzas Revolucionarias del Pueblo Eloy Alfaro (Jimenez and Franchi 2016 p 61),
Fuerzas Armadas Populares Eloy Alfaro, FAPEA (Resumen 2015)

Group Formation: What is the earliest year the group was active? 1982 (form), 1983 (Resumen 2015; Jimenez and Franchi 2016 p 59).

Group End: What is the last year the group was active? Why did it stop using political violence?

1991 - part of the group disarms

1993 - AVC (whole party) signs a peace treaty with President of Ecuador

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Alfaro Vive Carajo (AVC) allegedly formed in 1982 and first came to attention on August 11, 1983, when the group stole the swords of Alfaro Eloy from the Municipal Museum of

Guayaquil (Resumen 2015; Jimenez and Franchi 2016, 59). Arturo Jarrin led the group (Resumen 2015). The Cuban revolution greatly inspired AVC ideology, which was leftist and nationalist (Jimenez and Franchi 2016). Overall, the AVC longed for the Ecuador government to adopt more economic freedoms, democracy, and increased social justice (Resumen 2015). The group's political aims were center seeking.

Geography

At an unknown date, the AVC went to various destinations to train, including Libya, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Colombia (Jimenez and Franchi 2012, 61). The AVC conducted 48 attacks in Quito, Ecuador and 18 attacks in Guayaquil, Ecuador (Jimenez and Franchi 2016, 62). Within Quito and Guayaquil, attacked locations included in Cuenca, Piampiro, Sangolqui, Esmeraldas, Carchi, Ibarra, Triunfo, and El Empalme (Jimenez and Franchi 2016, 63). The AVC also had two transnational attacks in Colombia in the cities of Spiales and Iquira (GTD 2016). Although the group perpetrated transnational attacks, the group did not have any known bases outside of Ecuador.

Organizational Structure

The group mainly comprised of university students who disliked the government of Leon Febres Cordero (1984-1988) and desired social justice (Resumen 2015). The AVC also had members from rural locations and the working class (Resumen 2015). Arturo Jarrin led the group (Resumen 2015). The AVC often robbed banks for funding (an estimated 21 times) (Jimenez and Franchi 2012, 62). The AVC also famously kidnapped an Ecuadorian businessman, Nahim Isaias, in hopes of high ransom, but failed (Jimenez and Franchi 2012, 62). Furthermore, the AVC intercepted the media and attacked the police in hopes of gaining power (Jimenez and Franchi 2012, 62). The group released a newspaper with all the group's goals and proclamations and distributed it throughout the country (Resumen 2015). When the group disarmed in 1991, it had an estimated 50 members (Canada IRB 1994).

External Ties

At an unknown date, the AVC went to various destinations to train, including Libya, Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Colombia (Jimenez and Franchi 2012, 61). It is unclear whether this was state-sanctioned or non-state sponsored training.

The AVC had an explicitly close friendship with the M-19 and America Battalion, who supplied the AVC with arms and advice throughout their entire time active (Jimenez and Franchi 2016, 61). An unnamed faction group emerged in 1991, when some members of the AVC refused to disarm. However, no additional information could be found about whether this group formally broke off and become an independent organization (Canada IRB 1994).

Group Outcome

In 1991, the government of Panama caught AVC leader, Arturo Jarrin. Allegedly, the government of Panama later killed Jarrin (Resumen 2015). That same year, the group turned in its weapons. One AVC faction, however, refused to disarm (Canada IRB 1994). After disarmament, many AVC members formed a political party (Canada IRB 1993). Finally, in January 1993, President Sixto Dur Ballens signed a treaty with the remaining armed members of the AVC and allowed them to form a political party (Canada IRB 1994).

VI. JOTEROS

Torg ID: 747

Min. Group Date: 1984

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- Searched Proquest
 - Joterios ecuador
 - Joterios ecuador 1984
- Searched gScholar
 - Joterios ecuador
 - Joterios ecuador 1984
- Searched Google
 - Joterios ecuador
 - Joterios ecuador 1984

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is a wing of the PCLME.

Group Formation: This is a wing of the PCLME.

Group End: This is a wing of the PCLME.

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is a wing of the PCLME.

Geography

This is a wing of the PCLME.

Organizational Structure

This is a wing of the PCLME.

External Ties

This is a wing of the PCLME.

Group Outcome

This is a wing of the PCLME.

Notes for Iris:

-I did a quick search on the phrase "Joteros" and it seems to be a person associated with the PCMLE - the website below in the preview I got mentions them in this context. I did not actually click on the site as it seems to be the PCMLE's website, but I got that much from the preview google provides.

Who can be Jota militants? - Weekly On March
www.pcmle.org/EM/spip.php?article3229

[Who can be Jota militants? - Weekly On March](http://www.pcmle.org/EM/spip.php?article3229)

www.pcmle.org/EM/spip.php?article3229 [Translate this page](#)

The Jota militants are young people from the different popular sectors of **Ecuadorian** society , the struggle of the **joteros** is to reach a ...

-The first result for "Joteros Ecuador" is the PCMLE website

-What is "jota"? Colloquially, it's just "J" in Spanish and -tero refers to a person who is a part of a group so this would functionally refer to like J's people?

-this is either a faction of the PCMLE (most likely) or otherwise a very vague descriptor of a group

- VII. MONTONEROS PATRIA LIBRE
Torg ID: 1818
Min. Group Date: 1986
Max. Group Date: 1989
Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 2398. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=2398>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Information on the Alfaro Vive Carajo guerrilla group in Ecuador, 1 November 1989, ECU2782, available at:
<https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ac8758.html>
- “The Montoneros Patria Libre group says it has Berrocal in its power.” El Pais. 1989.
https://elpais.com/diario/1989/08/31/espana/620517603_850215.html
- Eudald Cortina. “Interview with ‘Companero Antonio’ - Ex-Militant of Montoneros Patria Libre.” CEDEMA. 2010. <http://www.cedema.org/ver.php?id=4141>
- Case witnesses ‘Cochapamba’ explain what happened 30 years ago.” El Telegrafo. 2015.
<https://www.eltelegrafo.com.ec/noticias/judicial/12/testigos-de-caso-cochapamba-explican-lo-sucedido-hace-30-anos-infografia>
- Dennis M. Hanratty, ed. “Internal Security.” Ecuador: A Country Study. Washington: GPO for the Library of Congress, 1989.
<http://www.country-data.com/cgi-bin/query/r-4004.html>
- “Political Organizations in Ecuador.” South America, Central America, and the Caribbean. Psychology Press. 2002. P. 374.
https://books.google.com/books?id=o9ODxqsr-dIC&pg=PA374&lpg=PA374&dq=MONTONEROS+PATRIA+LIBRE&source=bl&ots=KwC5MoGB-V&sig=ACfU3U2cUUEOmhV_YHCjPtBHDE4HjB0pSg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj9yuKEw5viAhUNHTQIHapdC7Y4ChDoATAlegQICRAB#v=onepage&q=MONTONEROS%20PATRIA%20LIBRE&f=false

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Guerillas for a Free Homeland (Hanratty 1989)

Group Formation: 1986 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 1989 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Montoneros Patria Libre is a splinter group originating from the leftist Alfaro Vive Carajo group (Hanratty 1989). The group formed in response to the far-right government of León Febres Cordero, whose government engaged in human rights abuse, repression,

persecution, and killing (Cortina 2010). The group called for the end of authoritarianism (Psychology Press 2002). The group's strategy is described as first to win the support of the people and to then begin political and territorial occupation (Cortina 2010). The group is described as a clandestine political-military organization (Cortina 2010).

It is unknown precisely when the group splintered from Alfaro Vive, but it first came to attention as a violent group when it kidnapped Enrique Echeuerria, a member of the HR Tribunal in 1986 (GTD 2018; Cortina 2010). The group formed with the primary goal of revolutionary change to overthrow the Ecuadorian government (Cortina 2010). The group aligned itself with many fronts in hopes of more liberties, including student and rural fronts (Cortina 2010).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational, with recorded attacks only occurring in the city of Quito (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

The group's organization was hierarchical but specific details are not known (Cortina 2010). The group had a permanent military wing (Cortina 2010). Militancy operations were controlled by the National Direction and Superior command, who reported to a comrade "Manuel", who was the military and logistics leader of the group (Cortina 2010). The group is estimated to have had forces of about 100 members at some point in time (Hanratty 1989). The group also allegedly took part in bank robberies to amass some funds (Hanratty 1989).

External Ties

The group seems to be allied with the Alfaro Vive Carajo group, as it and the AVC intended to keep an eye on the newly-elected president Borja's policies (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1989). Members of the group were also involved with the PCMLE and the Federation Workers of Pichincha (FTP) (Cortina 2010).

Group Outcome

The group was involved in a multitude of events, including the occupation of the "Temple of Liberty," seizing trade unions, as well as in spreading propaganda (Cortina 2010). In September of 1989 the group kidnapped Pablo Martín Berrocal, and demanded the government air a political message created by the group in exchange for Berrocal's release (El Pais 1989). The group was a part of the Rainbow Project, a rising up of the indigenous, student, and peasant populations of Ecuador (Cortina 2010).

The group and the AVC intended to keep an eye on the newly-elected president Borja's policies (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1989). After seeing that Borja's policies were in line with their beliefs the group and the AVC agreed to stop hostilities so long as the government continued to meet the groups' conditions (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1989). The group's last known violent attack was in After this, Borja declared there to be no guerilla warfare in Ecuador (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1989).

As the group's activity dropped, members of the group were disenchanted by the group's ability to change Ecuador and moved to Colombia to seek other ways to change the situation in the area (Cortina 2010). The group allegedly engaged in criminal activity from 1976 to 1986 (El Telegrafo 2015). When CEDEMA interviewed an ex-MPL commander in 2010, there was no evidence to suggest the group was still active (Cortina 2010).

VIII. NATIONAL LIBERATION ARMY (ECUADOR)

Torg ID: 1838

Min. Group Date: 1989

Max. Group Date: 2000

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 6011. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=6011>
- "Rafael Ignacio Cuesta Caputi: Merits of the Case." Report No. 36/08. Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. 2008.
https://www.cidh.oas.org/annualrep/2008eng/Ecuador12487eng.htm#_ftn27
- "Attacks on the Press 2000: Ecuador." Committee to Protect Journalists. 2001.
<https://cpj.org/2001/03/attacks-on-the-press-2000-ecuador.php>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Ejército Ecuatoriano de Liberación Popular, Ecuadorian Popular Liberation Army

Group Formation: 2002 (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008; Committee to Protect Journalists 2001)

Group End: 2002 (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008; Committee to Protect Journalists 2001)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Specific details of the group's formation are unknown. There is some speculation this was not a group at all, but supporters of the January 21, 2000 coup which overthrew Jamil Mahuad.

A few weeks after the coup, the National Liberation Army first came to attention on February 9-14th, 2002 (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008; Committee to Protect Journalists 2001). During this period, the group claimed responsibility for 10 letter bombings which were mailed to journalists and politicians (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008; Committee to Protect Journalists 2001). The bombs were deactivated by the police and no one was injured (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational as its attacks were contained to Ecuador, specifically Guayaquil (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

From February 9 to February 14 of 2002, the group claimed responsibility for 10 letter bombings which were mailed to journalists and politicians (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008; Committee to Protect Journalists 2001). The bombs were deactivated by the police and no one was injured (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights 2008). The group has not been active since and thus is assumed to be inactive.

Notes for Iris:

*note - 1989 GTD information looks wrong. PQ article states it was the Colombian ELN responsible for the kidnapping and we also have a competing claim that MPL conducted the kidnapping -- seems more likely this was confined to 2000 incident only

*court case seems to suggest the coup perpetrators were likely responsible for the attack rather than a new group

IX. GRUPO LIBERTAD
Torg ID: 1723
Min. Group Date: 1992
Max. Group Date: 1992
Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1700. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1700>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ecuador: Information on Red Sun (Sol Rojo) and other currently existing militant or terrorist groups as well as information on any connections between Red Sun and the AVC (Alfaro Vive Carajo), 1 March 1994, ECU16724.E, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab2358.html>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Freedom Group (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1994)

Group Formation: 1992 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 1992 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Not much is known about the group other than that it formed in 1992, among 12 other groups that formed that year (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1994; GTD 2018). The group was responsible for the failed assassination attempt on Vice President Alberto Dahik in 1992 (GTD 2018).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational (GTD 2018). The group's only known incident occurred in Quito (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for the failed assassination attempt on Vice President Alberto Dahik (GTD 2018). The group has not been active since and thus is assumed to be inactive.

X. HEROES OF CANTO GRANDE

Torg ID: 1732

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1374. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1374>
- Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, Ecuador: Information on Red Sun (Sol Rojo) and other currently existing militant or terrorist groups as well as information on any connections between Red Sun and the AVC (Alfaro Vive Carajo), 1 March 1994, ECU16724.E, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/3ae6ab2358.html>
- Edward Mickolus and Susan Simmons. "Terrorism, 1992-1995: A Chronology of Events and a Selectively Annotated Bibliography." ABC-CLIO. 1997. P. 167-168.
https://books.google.com/books?id=UIBzCC0c2McC&pg=PA167&lpg=PA167&dq=HEROES+OF+CANTO+GRANDE+ecuador+1992&source=bl&ots=AmTUqzOGHR&sig=ACfU3U00J0b0HtdjG_DHJH827XiGFzTE8A&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjP3e_3yJviAhVLI_FQKHxjKBFQQ6AEwEXoEAcQAQ#v=onepage&q=HEROES%20OF%20CANTO%20GRANDE%20ecuador%201992&f=false

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Heroes de Canto Grande (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1994)

Group Formation: 1992 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 1992 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Not much is known about the group other than that it formed in 1992, among 12 other groups that formed that year (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada 1994; GTD 2018). The group was first violently active on May 27, 1992 (Mickolus and Simmons 1997). The group protested the violent death of many members of the Shining Path in the Miguel Castro prison at the hands of the police in Lima (Mickolus and Simmons 1997). The group was responsible for the bombing of the Main Foreign Ministry Building in Quito (GTD 2018; Mickolus and Simmons 1997). The group conducted this attack in hopes that Ecuador would abandon diplomatic relations with Peru and expel any diplomats currently residing in Ecuador (Mickolus and Simmons 1997).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational (GTD 2018). The group's only known incident occurred in Quito (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for the bombing of the Main Foreign Ministry Building in Quito (GTD 2018; Mickolus and Simmons 1997). The group conducted this attack in hopes that Ecuador would abandon diplomatic relations with Peru and expel any diplomats currently residing in Ecuador (Mickolus and Simmons 1997). The group has not been active since 1992 and thus is assumed to be inactive.

XI. POPULAR DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MPD)

Torg ID: 1873

Min. Group Date: 1992

Max. Group Date: 1992

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 1797. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=1797>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Group Formation: This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Group End: This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Geography

This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Organizational Structure

This is the political wing of the PCLME.

External Ties

This is the political wing of the PCLME.

Group Outcome

This is the political wing of the PCLME.

XII. GROUP OF POPULAR COMBATANTS

Torg ID: 195

Min. Group Date: 1993

Max. Group Date: 2000

Onset: NA

Aliases: Grupo De Combatientes Populares, Group Of People's Fighters, Group Of People's Fighters (Gcp), Group Of Popular Combatants, Group Of Popular Combatants (Gcp), Group Of Popular Combatants (Gpc), People's Combatant Group, People's Combatantsê Group (Grupo De Combatientes Populares - Gcp)

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Group of Popular Combatants." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3659. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwpEfUoZxcDA/edit>
- GTD Perpetrator 929. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=929>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Group Formation: This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Group End: This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Geography

This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Organizational Structure

This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

External Ties

This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

Group Outcome

This is the armed wing of the PCMLE.

XIII. UNITED SELF-DEFENSE GROUP OF COLOMBIA

Torg ID: 521

Min. Group Date: 1997

Max. Group Date: 2009

Onset: NA

Aliases: United Self Defense Units Of Colombia (Auc), Autodefensas Unidas De Colombia, Colombian United Self-Defence Groups (Auc), Las Autodefensas Unidas De Colombia (Auc), United Self-Defense Forces Of Colombia (Auc), United Self-Defense Group Of Colombia

Part 1. Bibliography

- “COLOMBIAN UNITED SELF-DEFENCE GROUPS (AUC).” Terrorist Organization Profile No. 126, MIPT Knowledge Base, 2008, National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dbf5n9nS6k1aWmypsBAxszbOxLRHBaDvklRdprXFMPY/edit>
- Martha Crenshaw. “United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia.” Mapping Militant Organizations. 2015. <http://web.stanford.edu/group/mappingmilitants/cgi-bin/groups/view/85>
- “AUC.” InsightCrime. 2015. <http://www.insightcrime.org/colombia-organized-crime-news/auc-profile>
- “AUC.” Global Security. N.D. <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/world/para/auc.htm>
- “Autodefensas Unidas de Colombia (AUC).” Mackenzie Institute. 2015. <http://mackenzieinstitute.com/autodefensas-unidas-de-colombia-auc-3/>
- “United Self Defenses Forces/Group of Colombia.” FAS. 2016. <https://fas.org/irp/world/para/auc.htm>
- Stephanie Hanson. “Colombia’s Right-Wing Paramilitaries and Splinter Groups.” Council on Foreign Relations. 2008. <https://www.cfr.org/background/colombias-right-wing-paramilitaries-and-splinter-groups>
- Caitlin Trent. “AUC.” Colombia Reports. 2012. <https://colombiareports.com/auc/>
- “Profile: Colombia’s armed groups.” 2013. BBC. <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-11400950>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: no other aliases found

Group Formation: 1997 (Crenshaw 2015; Global Security N.D.) - first attack in 1999 (Crenshaw 2015)

Group End: What is the last year the group was active? Why did it stop using political violence?

2008- reason for disarmament peace treaty and extradition of some members (Crenshaw 2015)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The AUC, a paramilitary umbrella group, formed in 1997 (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015; FAS 2016; Hanson 2008; Trent 2012; BBC 2013; MIPT 2008). The AUC comprised of seven different regional groups that defended their corresponding regions (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015). The Castaño brothers (Carlos Castano was the main leader) founded the AUC. Nevertheless, each regional group had its own leader (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015; Hanson 2008). The group ideology was right wing (Insight Crime 2015).

Geography

The group operated in two-thirds of Colombia, including near the Colombian-Panamanian Border and in the Caribbean Coast region (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015). The group was also active in Antioquia, Cordoba, Sucre Putumayo,, and Bolivar (Crenshaw 2015; Global Security N.D.;FAS 2016.). The group was involved in transnational drug trafficking (Global Security n.d).

Organizational Structure

The AUC, a paramilitary umbrella organization, formed in 1997 (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015; FAS 2016; Hanson 2008; Trent 2012; BBC 2013; MIPT 2008). The AUC comprised of seven different regional groups that defended their corresponding regions (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015). The Castaño brothers (Carlos Castano was the main leader) founded the AUC. Nevertheless, each regional group had its own leader (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015; Hanson 2008).

The AUC had an estimated 30,000 soldiers at its peak in 2000 (Insight Crime 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015). The group allegedly paid all its members a salary (Global

Security n.d.). Members of the group comprised of local paramilitaries dispersed across the country and united under the AUC umbrella.

The group funded itself through kidnappings, drug trafficking, and extortion (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015; Hanson 2008; Trent 2012; BBC 2013). In 2003, drug trafficking became a primary source of funding for the AUC (Mackenzie Institute 2015). The group attacked narco groups, which allowed it to gain vast amounts of money from the drug trade (Insight Crime 2015). The group was responsible for hundreds of murders and kidnappings (Crenshaw 2015). Leader Carlos Castano admitted that about 70% of group funding came from drug trafficking (Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.; FAS 2016; MIPT 2008).

In order for a group to “protect” an area from guerillas, the civilians of that area had to pay the AUC (Mackenzie Institute 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.). This money provided another source of funding for the group (Mackenzie Institute 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Global Security n.d.). Additionally, economic elites greatly supported the AUC (Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015 ;Trent 2012; MIPT 2008).

The group became increasingly violent overtime and killed anyone that they deemed “guerrilla sympathizers” (Mackenzie Institute 2015).

External Ties

The AUC originally operated in the early 1990s, as a non-violent local militia for self-defense in northwestern Colombia under the leadership of the Castano brothers. In 1994, Carlos Castano formed the ACCU, which was an armed group. Castano later formed the AUC in 1997 and merged the ACCU with it.

Members of the group comprised of local paramilitaries dispersed across the country and united under the AUC umbrella. Colombian military officials allegedly supported the AUC (Insight Crime 2015).

The AUC attacked Escobar’s Medellin Cartel (Hanson 2008; Trent 2012). The group, however, primarily attacked FARC and ELN (Insight Crime 2015; Global Security n.d.; Mackenzie Institute 2015; FAS 2016; Hanson 2008; MIPT 2008).

The US government announced it would help end drug trade in Colombia (Insight Crime 2015). The AUC feared the anticipated US action and subsequently expressed openness to peace negotiations (Insight Crime 2015).

Group Outcome

In 2003, the group focus shifted from paramilitary activity to drug trafficking (Global Security N.D.; Mackenzie Institute 2015). The US announced it would help end drug trade in Colombia (Insight Crime 2015). Carlos Castano, afraid of US action, expressed willingness to engage in peace negotiations in 2003 with President Uribe (Insight Crime 2015; Global Security n.d.; Hanson 2008; Trent 2012; BBC 2013).

In 2004, the other AUC leaders, including Vicente Castano, said that Carlos posed a “risk to the group” because of his efforts for peace negotiations. As a result, they killed him (Mackenzie Institute 2015; Trent 2012).

Victor Castano soon saw the enormous personal wealth he could receive from the group’s drug trafficking and began to take much of the group’s earnings for himself (Mackenzie Institute 2015).

Peace agreement negotiations began in 2003 with Carlos Castano and ended in 2006 (Insight Crime 2015; Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015; Trent 2012). In 2005, Vicente Castano went into hiding (Mackenzie Institute 2015). Many members continued to commit crimes even after demobilization (Insight Crime 2015; Global Security n.d.; BBC 2013) Many joined Los Ratrajos, Los Urabenos, and other criminal groups (Trent 2012).

The Justice and Peace Law was amended to put an end to the paramilitaries (Hanson 2008; Trent 2012). The Justice and Peace Law dealt with rebel disarmament and rehabilitation.

The AUC members entered into political talks with the government after it started peace negotiations in 2003 (Trent 2012; MIPT 2008). After the peace talks started, allegations arose about corrupt interactions between the AUC and the Colombian government.

In 2008, the AUC allegedly attacked Colombian and Ecuadorian citizens (Crenshaw 2015). The government extradited a few members to the US for violating the peace agreement (Trent 2012; BBC 2013; MIPT 2008). By 2008, over 30,000 members had demobilized (Global Security N.D.). In 2009, the government confirmed that the AUC had officially dissolved (Crenshaw 2015; Mackenzie Institute 2015).

- XIV. MILICIAS REVOLUCIONARIAS DEL PUEBLO (MRP)
Torg ID: 372
Min. Group Date: 1998
Max. Group Date: 2003
Onset: NA

Aliases: People's Revolutionary Militias (Mrp), Milicias Revolucionarias Del Pueblo, Milicias Revolucionarias Del Pueblo (Mrp), People's Revolutionary Militias, People's Revolutionary Militias (Ecuador)

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 20360. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=20360>
- "Ecuador." Inter-American Press Association. 2013.
<https://en.sipiapa.org/notas/1125866-ecuador>
- "Appendix A - Chronology of Significant Terrorist Incidents 2003." US State Department. 2004. <https://www.state.gov/j/ct/rls/crt/2003/31685.htm#>
- "Grenade attack on British consulate." BBC. 2003.
<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/2883295.stm>
- "Bombers target British consulate in Ecuador." Irish Examiner. 2004.
<https://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/world/bombers-target-british-consulate-in-ecuador-151380.html>
-

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: N/A

Group Formation: 2002 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 2003 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

The group was first violently active on August 28, 2002 (GTD 2018). The group used pamphlet bombs at sites of attacks denouncing the US policies and President Gutierrez's economic policies (GTD 2018; Irish Examiner 2004).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational (GTD 2018). The group's only known incidents occurred in Quito and Guayaquil (GTD 2018).

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

The group claimed responsibility for the explosion of multiple pamphlet bombs (GTD 2018). The first happened in a McDonald's with pamphlets denouncing the US (GTD 2018). The second occurred in the vicinity of an American Airlines office denouncing Gutierrez's economic policies (GTD 2018). The third bombing occurred in the Ecuadorian Congress, but the White Legion has also claimed responsibility for this attack (GTD 2018). The next attack was a pamphlet bomb planted in the Ministry of Agriculture, with pamphlets denouncing Gutierrez's austerity programs (GTD 2018). The group also apparently shot Carlos Muñoz and Ricardo Mendoza, as they were driving in 2003 allegedly because their company, Telesistema, did not broadcast their messages (Inter-American Press Association 2013). The last attributable attack occurred in March 2003 when members of the group threw a grenade at a car near the UK Consulate as a means of denouncing US and UK involvement in Iraq (GTD 2018; BBC 2003; Irish Examiner 2004). The group has not been active since 2003 and thus is assumed to be inactive.

XV. ECUADORIAN REBEL FORCE

Torg ID: 157

Min. Group Date: 2001

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: NA

Aliases: None

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Ecuadorian Rebel Force." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3589. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwpEfUoZxcDA/edit>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: Fuerza Rebelde (MIPT 2008)

Group Formation: 2001 (MIPT 2008)

Group End: 2001 (MIPT 2008)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Not much is known about the group's formation. The group first came to attention as a violent group in November 2001 when it claimed responsibility for a bombing outside the National Finance Corporation and National Modernization Council (MIPT 2008). The group is said to have opposed the government's efforts to privatize the electricity industry as well as general opposition towards globalization (MIPT 2008).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational as its one recorded attack occurred in Ecuador (MIPT 2008).

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for a bombing outside the National Finance Corporation and National Modernization Council, the latter being responsible for the sale of state-owned electricity and telecom industries to the private in 2001 (MIPT 2008). The group has not been active since 2001 and thus is assumed to be inactive.

XVI. CUERPO ARMADO REVOLUCIONARIO (CAR)

Torg ID: 411

Min. Group Date: 2001

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: NA

Aliases: Revolutionary Armed Corps (Car), Cuerpo Armado Revolucionario (Car), Revolutionary Amazon Command

Part 1. Bibliography

- "Revolutionary Armed Corps." Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3570. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwpEfUoZxcDA/edit>

- Ecuador: Pamphlet bomb for revolutionary armed corps defused in lago agrio. 2001. BBC Monitoring Americas - Political, Feb 20, 2001. <https://search.proquest.com/docview/452237634?accountid=14026> (accessed May 14, 2019).

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: N/A

Group Formation: 2001 (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001)

Group End: 2001 (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Not much is known about the group's ideology. The group's date of formation is not known, but it first came to attention as a violent group on February 20, 2001 (BBC 2001). The group was responsible for a single attack attempt (MIPT 2008). The group planted a medium-powered pamphlet bomb at the side of a Church (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001). The police soon diffused the bomb before it could be detonated and analyzed the pamphlets and found the initials of the group on it (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001).

Police described the group as a left-wing extremist group, but no additional information could be found to corroborate this (MIPT 2008). MIPT (2008) speculates the group is religious because it targeted a church, but there is no evidence to support this. It is unclear what their political aims were, if any.

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational, as its only recorded attack was in Lago Agrio, Sucumbios Province (BBC 2001)

Organizational Structure

No information can be found on the group's organizational structure.

External Ties

No information can be found on the group's external ties.

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for a single bomb attempt that failed (BBC 2001; MIPT 2008). The group planted a medium-powered pamphlet bomb at the side of a Church (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001). The police soon diffused the bomb and analyzed the pamphlets and found the initials of the group on it (MIPT 2008; BBC 2001). The group has not been heard from since and never actually initiated a violent attack.

XVII. WHITE LEGION (ECUADOR)

Torg ID: 532

Min. Group Date: 2001

Max. Group Date: 2003

Onset: NA

Aliases: White Legion (Ecuador), Legion Blanca, Legi_n Blanca

Part 1. Bibliography

- “White Legion (Ecuador).” Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3694. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwpEfUoZxcDA/edit>
- GTD Perpetrator 20472. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018. <https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=20472>
- “Ecuador: New Threats from ‘White Legion’ To Human Rights Defenders.” Organizacion Mundial Contra la Torture. 2001. <http://www.omct.org/es/human-rights-defenders/urgent-interventions/ecuador/2001/08/d15411/>
- Evan Gerstmann and Matthew Streb. “Academic Freedom at the Dawn of a New Century: How Terrorism, Governments, and Culture Wars Impact Free Speech.” Stanford University Press. 2006. P. 141. <https://books.google.com/books?id=Ry2E9mBjOOAC&pg=PA141&lpg=PA141&dq=white+legion+ecuador+group&source=bl&ots=gxqDnsUpPL&sig=ACfU3U06KflleniKWE1BpN-FOXhO40RZCg&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewin4MHIzpvAhWriVQKHc3FBawQ6AEwC3oECAgQAQ#v=onepage&q=white%20legion%20ecuador%20group&f=false>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: N/A

Group Formation: 2001 (MIPT 2008; OMCT 2001)

Group End: 2003 (MIPT 2008)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

Though the armed group's exact date of foundation is not known, the group first came to attention as a violent group in July 2001 when it sent death threats to politicians, human rights workers and left-wing activists (Organization Mundial 2001; MIPT 2008). The group also claimed responsibility for murdering Dilva Stepp and her driver on August 2, 2001 (Organization Mundial 2001). The group released its fourth Communique on August 20, 2001 (OMCT 2001). The group is described as a right-wing organization (MIPT 2008). The group describes its goals as set on, but not limited to, delegitimizing human rights defense campaigns (OMCT 2001).

In a later letter the group also called for its members to apply the death penalty to human rights defenders (OMCT 2001). The group is seen as an Ecuadorian pro-fascist Paramilitary group that in the context of the time has denounced Communists and drug traffickers in the area as well (OMCT 2001; Gerstmann and Streb 2006). The group is also ascribed as anti-Catholic and anti-Communist (MIPT 2008). The group supported US involvement in Ecuador and "Plan Colombia" (MIPT 2008).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational as all of its attacks have been limited to within Ecuador (GTD 2018; MIPT 2008).

Organizational Structure

The group's main form of spreading information is the internet (MIPT 2008). The group's organization was also described as "paramilitary" (Gerstmann and Streb 2006). No other information could be found about the group's size, membership, or leadership.

External Ties

The group may have had possible ties to Neo-Nazi organizations in Ecuador at the time, including the group Ecuadorian National Socialism (MIPT 2008).

Group Outcome

The group has been responsible for sending several death threats since late July of 2001 including an academic (MIPT 2008; OMCT 2001; Gerstmann and Streb 2006). The group claimed responsibility for the deaths of Ms. Dilva Stepp, director of the Pro Refugee Committee of the Ecuadorian Episcopal Conference, and her driver on August 2, 2001 (OMCT 2001). The group was also allegedly responsible for a fire in Ecuador's

Congress in 2003 (GTD 2018; MIPT 2008). The group also allegedly attempted to assassinate President Lucio Gutierrez in April of 2003 (MIPT 2008). The group has not been active or heard from since its last attack in March 2003 (MIPT 2008; GTD 2018). It is unknown what happened to the group after 2003.

Notes for Iris:

- political aim is to “delegitimize” human rights
- wanted to crackdown on liberal reforms by govt
- opposed left-wing/progressive organizations fighting for reform
- denounce HR organizations that support Plan Colombia
- OMCT article is most useful for this group
- broader context: no evidence of specific economic/political shock and that Plan Colombia had already been in place for a few years

XVIII. ARMED REVOLUTIONARY LEFT

Torg ID: 83

Min. Group Date: 2004

Max. Group Date: 0

Onset: NA

Aliases: Armed Revolutionary Left, Armed Revolutionary Left (Ira), Izquierda Revolucionaria Armada (Ira)

Part 1. Bibliography

- “Armed Revolutionary Left.” Terrorist Organization Profile No. 3950. MIPT Knowledge Base. 2008. National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcNupbpALeNJB2Esc7VPeA3WKFPooPUwwwEfUoZxcDA/edit>
- Leftist group claims responsibility for leaflet bomb in ecuadoran capital. 2004. BBC Monitoring Americas, May 02, 2004. <https://search.proquest.com/docview/460202262?accountid=14026> (accessed May 14, 2019).

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: N/A

Group Formation: 2004 (MIPT 2008; BBC 2004)

Group End: 2004 (MIPT 2008; BBC 2004)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

There is not much information about this group. It is unclear when it formed, but it first came to attention as a violent leftist group in March 2004 (MIPT 2008; BBC 2004).

The group attacked commercial and political targets in Quito with leaflet bombings (BBC 2004; MIPT 2008). The group opposed Ecuadorian President Lucio Gutierrez (MIPT 2008). The group called the president sycophantic as well as unloyal to the 21 January Patriotic Society's legislator Renan Borbua, the cousin of the president (BBC 2004). The group also criticized the president's increasing of the armed force's salary, calling it a way to extend his time in the presidential palace (BBC 2004).

Geography

The group does not seem to be transnational as the group's only recorded attacks occurred in Quito (BBC 2004).

Organizational Structure

The group's specific organizational structure is not known.

External Ties

The group seemed to support the 21 January Patriotic Society since it denounced the President's firing of its party member Renan Boruba (BBC 2004; MIPT 2008).

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for an explosion on March 1 which occurred outside the Economy and Finance Ministry and a second explosion caused by a leaflet bomb on April 29, 2004 (BBC 2004). The group has not been active since 2004 and is assumed to be inactive (MIPT 2008).

Notes for Iris:

-what did they want? They seemed loyal to the 21 January Society and were responding to the shock

-super unclear what they wanted - they vaguely critique his pandering to supporters with promises of wage increases when he hasn't in fact deserved it (they just want to draw attention to some points, but no clear aim)

XIX. REVOLUTIONARY INSURGENT ARMED FORCES OF ECUADOR

Torg ID: 1954

Min. Group Date: 2011

Max. Group Date: 2011

Onset: NA

Aliases: Revolutionary Insurgent Armed Forces Of Ecuador (Faire), Faire, Fuerzas Armadas Insurgentes Revolucionarias Del Ecuador, Fuerzas Armadas Insurgentes Revolucionarias Del Ecuador (Faire), Revolutionary Insurgent Armed Forces Of Ecuador

Part 1. Bibliography

- GTD Perpetrator 10100. Global Terrorism Database. Study for Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism. Last modified July 2018.
<https://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/search/Results.aspx?perpetrator=10100>
- "Could Ecuador be seeing the rise of a new rebel insurgency?" Christian Science Monitor. 2011.
<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/Latin-America-Monitor/2011/1130/Could-Ecuador-be-seeing-the-rise-of-a-new-rebel-insurgency>
- United States Department of State, Country Reports on Terrorism 2011 - Ecuador, 31 July 2012, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/501fbcbac.html>
- "Military May Be Marching in the Wrong Direction in Latin America." Council on Hemispheric Affairs. 2015. <http://www.coha.org/police-militarization-in-ecuador/>

Part 2. Basic Coding

Aliases: FAIRE (GTD 2018; Christian Science Monitor 2011), Armed Revolutionary Insurgent Forces of Ecuador (Christian Science Monitor 2011), Fuerzas insurgentes revolucionarias armadas de Ecuador (Armed Revolutionary Insurgent Forces of Ecuador, or FAIRE) (COHA 2015)

Group Formation: 2011 (GTD 2018)

Group End: 2011 (GTD 2018)

Part 3. Narrative

Group Formation

It is unknown precisely when the group formed. The leftist group first came to attention as a violent group in 2011 when it claimed responsibility for several bombings (Christian Science Monitor 2011). It is disputed how many attacks the group carried out. The bombings occurred at the Labor Ministry in Quito as well as a health clinic and restaurant in Guayaquil (Christian Science Monitor 2011) There were three bombings that occurred that night. The State Department says the group was responsible for two attacks in Guayaquil and Quito (State Department 2012). Other sourcing says the group was responsible for separate attacks in Guayaquil and Quito, it is more likely than not that the

group was only responsible for the two clustered attacks in Guayaquil (Christian Science Monitor 2011, US Department of State 2012).

The group's political aims were to protest the firing of several government employees (US Department of State 2012). The group opposed the Correa government, as seen in their pamphlet (Christian Science Monitor 2011). Their pamphlets also had a heavy focus on worker's rights (Christian Science Monitor 2011).

Geography

The group's only attack occurred in Guayaquil, suggesting the group is not transnational (GTD 2018; Christian Science Monitor 2011)

Organizational Structure

Not much is known about the group's organizational structure. The group's aims were seen as more of a public stunt to attract membership from youth to rise up against the government instead of an organized campaign (COHA 2015).

External Ties

The group could be seen as a potential ally of FARC (Christian Science Monitor 2011). A separate group known as the Guerrilla Army of the People N-15 claimed responsibility for the same attack (US Department of State 2012).

Group Outcome

The group was responsible for two separate bombings, one being a pamphlet bomb, on November 22, 2011, one of which was planted in front of the Ministry of Health Offices and the other several blocks away in Guayaquil (Christian Science Monitor 2011). There are competing claims about whether there was a separate incident in Quito as well (US State Department 2012). Several pamphlet bombings occurred in December in a similar fashion, but no group claimed responsibility for them (US State Department 2012). The tie is not clear, but the group may have been involved in the attacks (US Department of State 2012). In response to the event, the Ecuador government expanded its military capabilities (US Department of State 2012). The group has not been active since 2011 so it is assumed to be inactive.

Notes for Iris:

- speculation that this group could be a credible threat, but doesn't emerge again
- there's mixed information between the State Dept and CSM about an incident on Nov.

Notes for Iris:

-large shock in 1992 leads to 12 new groups that year. There were presidential elections that led to a shock of very short-lived group

-otherwise the main trend was leftist groups which were modeled/inspired off of leftist groups in Colombia