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Washington, DC, May 8, 2002

Commander Manuel Marulanda  
General Secretariat  
Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (FARC-EP)  
Colombia

Commander Marulanda:

I am writing on behalf of Human Rights Watch to urge you to take immediate action to stop the use of gas cylinder bombs by members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (*Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo*, FARC-EP) under your command. The use of gas cylinder bombs by the FARC-EP violates international humanitarian law because of the indiscriminate nature of these weapons. Gas cylinder bombs are impossible to aim with accuracy and consequently often strike civilian objects and cause avoidable civilian casualties.

As the senior commander of the FARC-EP, it is your responsibility to ensure that all FARC-EP forces abide by the fundamental principles of international humanitarian law designed to protect civilians and combatants *hors de combat*. You will recall that in a letter dated July 10, 2001, Human Rights Watch called on you to order the forces under your command to cease all use of gas cylinder bombs. Since then, however, FARC-EP forces have not only persisted in their use of gas cylinder bombs, but have employed them on an increasing scale.

The most recent of these attacks occurred on May 2, 2002, in Bojayá, Chocó. During a reported clash between the FARC-EP and paramilitary forces, civilians sought refuge in a local church. According to credible reports received by Human Rights Watch, at least one gas cylinder bomb fired by the FARC-EP forces struck this church, killing at least 117 civilians, including at least forty-eight children, and injuring at least 114 other civilians.<sup>1</sup>

International humanitarian law prohibits attacks on civilians and civilian objects such as churches. Even if there was no intent to attack the civilians or the church, the use of a gas cylinder bomb, which cannot be aimed with accuracy, in a civilian area violated the international humanitarian law prohibition against indiscriminate attacks. Violations involving direct or indiscriminate attacks on civilians during an internal armed conflict are increasingly recognized internationally as amounting to war crimes.

The attack in Bojayá is just the latest in a long line of gas cylinder bomb attacks perpetrated by your forces. Prior to the attack of May 2, 2002, the FARC-EP had killed at least twelve civilians and injured at least forty-five others, including ten children, during attacks with gas cylinder bombs since July 10, 2001. The

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<sup>1</sup> Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, May 6, 2002; Human Rights Watch telephone interviews with Catholic Church representative, May 6, 2002, and May 7, 2002; "Denuncia Pública," Commission of Life, Justice and Peace, Diocese of Quibdó, May 6, 2002; "45 Niños entre víctimas de masacre de Bojayá," *El Espectador*, May 6, 2002; "Testimonios de los sobrevivientes," *El Tiempo*, May 5, 2002.

FARC-EP's use of these weapons in civilian areas is a blatant breach of international law. It also demonstrates a disregard for the most basic standards of respect for human life.

As we detail below, the FARC-EP has used gas cylinder bombs in at least twenty-seven separate attacks in Colombia since July 10, 2001, demonstrating an ongoing and flagrant pattern of use of prohibited weapons.<sup>2</sup> On the night of January 25, 2002, FARC-EP forces used gas cylinder bombs in two separate attacks, at Murillo, Tolima, and at Valparaíso, Caquetá, injuring six civilians.<sup>3</sup> FARC-EP forces have attacked the town of San José de Albán, Nariño with gas cylinder bombs twice since early October, on October 8, 2001, and on January 13, 2002, killing one civilian and injuring two others.<sup>4</sup> The Colombian Attorney General's office (*Fiscalía General de la Nación*) estimates that approximately one hundred gas cylinder bombs were used in a single FARC-EP attack: that of September 28, 2001, on Almaguer, Cauca.<sup>5</sup>

Human Rights Watch urges you in the strongest possible terms to take immediate steps to end this escalation in the use of gas cylinder bombs and to issue clear and strict instructions to all FARC-EP forces to cease all use of these weapons at once. In this regard, we note that the requirements of international humanitarian law prohibiting indiscriminate weapons and violence against civilians and combatants who are *hors de combat* are not open to negotiation. They impose legal obligations that are binding on the FARC-EP as a party to the conflict in Colombia.

As the FARC-EP's commander, you have the foremost responsibility to ensure that these requirements are embraced fully by your forces without condition or further delay. We urge you, Commander Marulanda, to make a clear, public commitment to this effect.

## **I. APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STANDARDS**

Human Rights Watch's assessment of the use of gas cylinder bombs by the FARC-EP is guided by the applicable international legal standards: in particular, Article 3 common to the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 (Common Article 3), the 1977 Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of Non-International Armed Conflicts (Protocol II), and the rules of customary international law.<sup>6</sup> The object of these standards is to minimize human suffering and ensure respect for basic humanitarian protections, which apply even in the midst of hostilities.<sup>7</sup>

Common Article 3 covers armed conflicts "not of an international character," and is directly applicable to the internal armed conflict in Colombia. Common Article 3 automatically applies when a situation of armed conflict exists, and covers all parties to the conflict. Protocol II applies when opposing forces in an internal armed conflict are under a responsible command, exercise enough control over territory to mount sustained

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<sup>2</sup> For a list of these twenty-seven attacks, see the appendix to this letter.

<sup>3</sup> "No se detiene escalada de Farc," *El Tiempo*, January 27, 2002; "No para oleada terrorista de las Farc," *El País*, January 26, 2002; "Un muerto y dos heridos en ataques de las Farc," *El Tiempo*, January 26, 2002; Police reports provided by the Department of Human Rights, Colombian National Police, to Human Rights Watch, March 6, 2002.

<sup>4</sup> "Diez muertos en ataque de Farc a San José de Albán (Nariño)," *El Tiempo*, January 15, 2002; "Nueve policías y un civil muertos en ataque de las FARC en Nariño," *El País*, January 14, 2002; "Farc atacaron San José de Albán (Nariño)," *El Tiempo*, January 14, 2002; "Las Farc atacaron a Cauca y Nariño," *El Colombiano*, October 9, 2001; Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 11, 2002.

<sup>5</sup> "Un muerto y siete heridos dejó ataque a Almaguer," *El País*, October 1, 2001; Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 13, 2002.

<sup>6</sup> Colombia adopted Protocol II without reservation. Repùblica de Colombia, "Actividades del Gobierno de Colombia relativas a la aplicación del Derecho Internacional Humanitario," Santafé de Bogotá, December 1, 1995. It entered into force in Colombia on February 15, 1996.

<sup>7</sup> For more information on FARC-EP violations of international humanitarian law, see *Beyond Negotiation: International Humanitarian Law and its Application to the Conduct of the FARC-EP* (New York: Human Rights Watch, 2001); *War Without Quarter: Colombia and International Humanitarian Law* (New York: Human Rights Watch, 1998), pp. 131-60, 193-97.

and coordinated military operations and have the capacity to implement Protocol II. The situation in Colombia clearly satisfies these criteria.

## 1. *Prohibitions on Violence against Civilians*

Both Common Article 3 and Protocol II prohibit the use of violence against civilians and combatants who are *hors de combat*. Paragraph 1 of Common Article 3 explicitly bars the parties to an armed conflict from killing or physically abusing non-combatants. Similarly, Protocol II prohibits “violence to the life, health and physical or mental well-being” of civilians and combatants who are *hors de combat*.<sup>8</sup>

As we will detail below, the FARC-EP’s use of gas cylinder bombs often results in avoidable civilian casualties in violation of Common Article 3 and Protocol II.

## 2. *Prohibition on Indiscriminate Attacks*

The use of gas cylinder bombs violates one of the most fundamental principles of the laws of war, which requires that parties to an armed conflict distinguish combatants from noncombatants and military objectives from protected property or protected places. Parties to a conflict must direct their operations only against military objectives.

These principles are codified in Articles 48 and 51 of the 1977 Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol I). Article 51(4) specifically prohibits indiscriminate attacks. Although Protocol I itself applies only to situations of international armed conflict, the rule against indiscriminate attacks is part of customary international law and is binding on all parties to both internal and international conflicts, including the FARC-EP.

As defined in Article 51(4), indiscriminate attacks are attacks that are not directed solely against a military objective; that employ a method or means of combat that cannot be directed at a specific military objective; or employ a method or means of combat whose effects cannot be limited as required by the Protocol; and consequently, in each such case, are of a nature to strike military objectives and civilians or civilian objects without distinction.

The crude method of construction and deployment of gas cylinder bombs makes it foreseeable that these weapons will do exactly what Article 51(4) prohibits: strike military and civilian objects without distinction. Gas cylinder bombs are made with tanks normally used to supply household stoves. The tank is loaded with fuel and shrapnel, and placed in a tube packed with dynamite. Typically, the tube is placed on the bed of a pickup truck positioned near the area that guerrillas intend to attack. The tank is launched when operators light a fuse linked to the dynamite charge.

Because gas cylinder bombs are impossible to aim consistently, they often strike civilian homes and shops, as well as schools, churches, and municipal offices. Consequently, use of them by the FARC-EP violates the prohibition against indiscriminate attacks.

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<sup>8</sup> In accordance with current international practice, we define civilians as persons who do not actively participate in hostilities and are not parties to the conflict. Direct participation in hostilities must be present in order for a civilian to lose his or her protected status. Michael Bothe, Karl Josef Partsch, and Waldemar A. Solf, *New Rules for Victims of Armed Conflicts: Commentary on the Two 1977 Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949* (The Hague/Boston/London: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, 1982), pp. 292-96.

## II. USE OF INDISCRIMINATE WEAPONS BY FARC-EP FORCES

According to press reports and information provided to Human Rights Watch by the People's Advocate (*Defensoría del Pueblo*) and the Attorney General's office in Bogotá, both of which have a long record of objectively investigating and reporting on abuses of human rights and humanitarian law, the FARC-EP has used gas cylinder bombs in at least twenty-seven attacks in Colombian towns, in addition to the attack in Bojayá, Chocó, since we wrote to you on July 10, 2001, calling for an end to the use of these weapons.<sup>9</sup> Sixteen of these incidents have occurred since the beginning of 2002.

Not including the recent attack in Bojayá, Chocó, attacks by the FARC-EP involving gas cylinder bombs have resulted in the deaths of at least twelve civilians and the injury of forty-five others, as well as severe material damage to civilian property since July 10, 2001. For example, the FARC-EP used gas cylinder bombs on March 19, 2002, in its attack on the police station in Policarpa, Nariño. The FARC-EP killed a seven-year-old child and destroyed at least ten homes in this attack.<sup>10</sup>

Similarly, on February 2, 2002, FARC-EP forces killed one civilian passer-by, forty-year-old Gloria Eudilia Riveros Rodríguez, when they used gas cylinders packed with explosives and shrapnel to attack the police station and municipal offices in Tame, Arauca. Ms. Riveros was killed when a cylinder bomb exploded by her. Cylinder bomb explosions also injured three other civilians in the vicinity, Aljadis Gutiérrez, José Ever Torres, and Luis Enrique Medina.<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>9</sup>Press reports indicate that gas cylinders have been used in the following attacks by FARC-EP forces: the attacks on Paujil, Caquetá, on April 21, 2002, on La Cruz, Nariño, on April 16 and 17, 2002, on Colón-Genova, Nariño, on April 15, 2002, on Buga, Valle de Cauca, on April 9, 2002, on Tuluá, Valle de Cauca, on April 9, 2002, on Saravena, Arauca, on March 21, 2002, on Tibú, Norte de Santander, on March 20, 2002, on Policarpa, Nariño, on March 19, 2002, on San Lorenzo, Caldas, on February 24, 2002, on Tame, Arauca, on February 2, 2002, on Cabañote, Arauca, on January 30, 2002, on Murillo, Tolima, and Valparaíso, Caquetá, on January 25, 2002, on Aguas Blancas, Cesar, on January 20, 2002, on Tadó, Chocó, on January 16, 2002, on San José de Albán, Nariño, on January 13, 2002, on Puracé and Coconuco, Cauca, on December 31, 2001, on the prison in Florencia, Caquetá, on December 17, 2001, on Inzá, Cauca, on December 12, 2001, on San Lorenzo, Caldas, on December 2, 2001, on San Bernardo, Tolima, on October 17, 2001, on Florida, Valle del Cauca, on October 10, 2001, on San José de Albán, Nariño, on October 8, 2001, on Almaguer, Cauca, on September 28, 2001, on Santa María, Huila, on August 25, 2001, on Santa Isabel, Tolima, on August 11, 2001, and on Anzoátegui, Tolima, on August 11, 2001. "Hospital de El Paujil sigue muy afectado por ataque de las Farc," *El Colombiano*, April 25, 2002; "Explotan cuatro bombas lanzadas contra guarniciones militares en Buga y Tuluá," *El Tiempo*, April 10, 2002; "Muertos 14 guerrilleros en Santander," *El Tiempo*, March 25, 2002; "Combates dejan 38 muertos en Tibú," *El País*, March 22, 2002; "Las Farc atacaron Policarpa, Nariño," *El País*, March 19, 2002; "Arauca, acosada por las Farc," *El País*, February 4, 2002; "Otro ataque a puesto de Policía en Tame," *El Tiempo*, February 4, 2002; "Atentado en Arauca," *El Tiempo*, January 31, 2002; "No se detiene escalada de Farc," *El Tiempo*, January 27, 2002; "Un muerto y dos heridos en ataques de las Farc," *El Tiempo*, January 26, 2002; "Advierten riesgo de apagón si prosiguen acciones de las Farc," *El Tiempo*, January 22, 2002; "Los ataques de la guerrilla no cesan," *El País*, January 22, 2002; "Ejército impide incursión de la guerrilla en Tadó, Chocó," *El País*, January 17, 2002; "Nueve policías y un civil muertos en ataque de las Farc en Nariño," *El País*, January 14, 2002; "Farc atacaron San José de Albán (Nariño)," *El Tiempo*, January 14, 2002; "Tres muertos y catorce heridos deja ataque de las Farc a cárcel de Florencia," *El País*, December 18, 2001; "Las Farc atacan y destruyen a Inzá," *El Colombiano*, December 14, 2001; "Las Farc atacaron pueblo indígena," *El Colombiano*, December 3, 2001; "Golpe a las Farc en zona rural del Meta," *El País*, October 19, 2001; "Florida volvió a ser blanco de las Farc," *El País*, October 12, 2001; "Las Farc atacaron a Cauca y Nariño," *El Colombiano*, October 9, 2001; "Un muerto y siete heridos dejó ataque a Almaguer," *El País*, October 1, 2001; "Santa María, Huila, pide solidaridad tras ataque de las Farc," *El Tiempo*, August 28, 2001; "Terror en Anzoátegui, Tolima, por toma de las Farc," *El Tiempo*, August 13, 2001; Police reports provided by the Department of Human Rights, Colombian National Police, to Human Rights Watch, March 6, 2002; Communication (email) from the National Director for the Administration of Complaints, People's Advocate, to Human Rights Watch, February 15, 2002; Communications (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 11, 2002, February 13, 2002, February 15, 2002, March 8, 2002, March 19, 2002, March 27, 2002, April 11, 2002, April 26, 2002, May 2, 2002, and May 6, 2002.

<sup>10</sup> Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, March 19, 2002.

<sup>11</sup>"Arauca, acosada por las Farc," *El País*, February 4, 2002; "Otro ataque a puesto de Policía en Tame," *El Tiempo*, February 4, 2002; "Trece muertos tras arremetida de las Farc en Caldas y Arauca," *El Tiempo*, February 3, 2002; Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 11, 2002.

During this same attack on Tame, FARC-EP forces launched cylinder bombs from a dump truck they stationed in front of a school, Oriental Femenino, causing it to be damaged. Although the attack took place at night when it was unlikely that any children or teachers were in the building, setting the launching mechanism close to a school indicates a disregard by your forces for civilian objects. The FARC-EP's cylinder bombs not only destroyed the police station, but also damaged civilian houses, the mayor's offices, a church, a pharmacy, and other commercial establishments in Tame.<sup>12</sup>

In a similar incident in Aguas Blancas, Cesar, on January 20, 2002 – the same day that FARC-EP leaders and the Colombian government were reaching agreement on a timetable for peace – FARC-EP forces attacked the local police station and surrounding area with gas cylinder bombs. This time, a FARC-EP cylinder bomb killed a sixty-year-old civilian, María Teresa Díaz Argote. Ms. Díaz was with her daughter and six grandchildren, who were watching television, when a gas cylinder bomb explosion caused the wall and part of the roof of their home to fall on her. At least six other civilians, including a fifteen-year-old boy, were wounded during the attack. In addition, the FARC-EP destroyed various homes close to the police station.<sup>13</sup>

The FARC-EP also used gas cylinder bombs and long-range arms in an attack on a prison in Florencia, Caquetá, on the night of December 17, 2001, which left three inmates dead and five inmates wounded. Four other civilians (Freddy Hernández, Carlos Andrés Blanquiceth, Gerardo Cortés, and Lourdes Betancourt), including a nine-year-old child, were wounded.<sup>14</sup> Not only did the attack cause damage to the prison itself, but it also affected nearby town residents. One such resident explained to the newspaper *El Tiempo*, “We felt a very large explosion, then around thirty small ones and later heavy fire. At home, we hid under the bed to protect ourselves.”<sup>15</sup>

Severe material damage and several casualties also resulted from two other FARC-EP attacks involving cylinder bombs in December 2001. In its attack on Inzá, Cauca, on December 12, 2001, the FARC-EP launched cylinder bombs, leaving the town's center in ruins. Ten civilian houses, a communications company, a bank, the town market, and other commercial establishments were destroyed, as was the police station, which was the primary object of the attack. A school and other public offices were also damaged, and power and telephone service were disrupted. At least twenty-five families lost their positions in the market place, and the attack caused some residents to flee from Inzá.<sup>16</sup>

Almost two weeks earlier, the explosion of a gas cylinder bomb launched by the FARC-EP on the night of December 2, 2001, during its attack on the town of San Lorenzo, Caldas, caused the death of a thirteen-year-old child named Blanca Milena Guapacha Taborda. Three other children, Olga Liliana Largo, Mónica Liliana Varela, and John Calvo, were injured. Thirty-five homes, the local school, and the commercial center in San Lorenzo were destroyed in the attack.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> “Advierten riesgo de apagón si prosiguen acciones de las Farc,” *El Tiempo*, January 22, 2002; “Los ataques de la guerrilla no cesan,” *El País*, January 22, 2002.

<sup>14</sup> “Farc atacan cárcel de Florencia,” *El Tiempo*, December 18, 2001; “Tres muertos y catorce heridos deja ataque de las Farc a cárcel de Florencia,” *El País*, December 18, 2001; “Guards and troops repel attack by hundreds of guerrillas on Colombian prison,” *Associated Press*, December 18, 2001; Police reports provided by the Department of Human Rights, Colombian National Police, to Human Rights Watch, March 6, 2002; Communication (email) from the National Director for the Administration of Complaints, People’s Advocate, to Human Rights Watch, February 15, 2002.

<sup>15</sup> “Farc atacan cárcel de Florencia,” *El Tiempo*, December 18, 2001.

<sup>16</sup> “Tres policías muertos en otro ataque a Inzá,” *El País*, December 14, 2001; “Las Farc atacan y destruyen a Inzá,” *El Colombiano*, December 14, 2001; “Colombia Rebels Attack Inza,” Center for International Policy, December 13, 2001.

<sup>17</sup> “Las Farc atacaron pueblo indígena,” *El Colombiano*, December 3, 2001; Police reports provided by the Department of Human Rights, Colombian National Police, to Human Rights Watch, March 6, 2002; Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 15, 2002; Communication (email) from the National Director for the Administration of Complaints, People’s Advocate, to Human Rights Watch, February 15, 2002.

On October 10, 2001, the FARC-EP used gas cylinders bombs when attacking the police station in Florida, Valle del Cauca, leaving one civilian, Evaristo Jordán Montenegro, dead, and destroying or damaging civilian property, including various commercial establishments, banks, a court, and the local offices of the Attorney General.<sup>18</sup>

Finally, on August 11, 2001, the FARC-EP exploded gas cylinders in Santa Isabel and Anzoátegui in Tolima. One child was killed in Anzoátegui, and a gas cylinder bomb explosion injured three civilians in Santa Isabel. Approximately twenty houses close to the police station in Anzoátegui were destroyed, and seven houses were damaged or destroyed in Santa Isabel.<sup>19</sup>

We note that the FARC-EP has itself recognized that gas cylinder bombs cause avoidable civilian casualties. In an interview with the newspaper *Voz*, Commander Jorge Briceño, a member of the General Secretariat, said “What we have acknowledged is that mistakes have been committed with the use of [gas cylinders], the civilian population has been affected and this is not our intention.”<sup>20</sup> That the FARC-EP leadership is quite aware of the danger to civilians caused by gas cylinder bombs and yet continues to allow their use makes its disregard of international humanitarian law all the more egregious.

### III. CONCLUSION

Commander Marulanda, it is imperative that you take immediate action to stop the use of gas cylinder bombs by the FARC-EP forces under your command. These weapons have harmed and killed numerous civilians in Colombia in gross breach of international humanitarian law. They have destroyed churches, schools, and private citizens’ homes and places of work. Gas cylinder bombs are, by their nature, extremely likely to endanger civilian populations, especially when used in residential or urban areas, as they have been repeatedly by your forces.

The FARC-EP’s use of indiscriminate weapons is a serious violation of the fundamental protections of international humanitarian law. Moreover, direct or indiscriminate attacks on civilians, although occurring in an internal conflict, are increasingly recognized internationally as war crimes. As we noted earlier in this letter, the protections of international humanitarian law may not be waived under any condition. On the contrary, they impose a legal obligation on the FARC-EP, as well as on Colombian government forces and paramilitaries, to refrain from using indiscriminate weapons.

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<sup>18</sup> “Florida volvió a ser blanco de las Farc,” *El País*, October 12, 2001; Communication (email) from the Office of the Attorney General, Bogotá, Colombia, to Human Rights Watch, February 13, 2002.

<sup>19</sup> “Terror en Anzoátegui, Tolima, por toma de las Farc,” *El Tiempo*, August 13, 2001; Police reports provided by the Department of Human Rights, Colombian National Police, to Human Rights Watch, March 6, 2002.

<sup>20</sup> “Lo de los cilindros nos preocupa,” *VOZ: La verdad del pueblo*, Edition 2086, March 21-27, 2001.

As the senior commander of the FARC-EP, you are accountable for the ongoing pattern of human rights violations committed by FARC-EP forces in Colombia. It is your obligation to ensure that FARC-EP forces respect and abide by international humanitarian law rules meant to protect civilians from indiscriminate violence and unlawful attacks.

We urge you to do so, and to make a public commitment to that effect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "José Miguel Vivanco". The signature is somewhat stylized and includes a horizontal line with a small flourish at the end.

José Miguel Vivanco  
Executive Director

**Appendix:**  
**Table of Attacks in which FARC-EP Forces**  
**Used Gas Cylinder Bombs**

Since July 10, 2001

| <b><i>Date of Attack</i></b>  | <b><i>Place of Attack</i></b> | <b><i>Civilian Casualties</i></b>   | <b><i>Material Damages</i></b>   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>August 11, 2001</b>        | <b>Anzoátegui,<br/>Tolima</b> | One child killed.   | Destroyed: approximately twenty houses close to the police station.  |
| August 11, 2001               | Santa Isabel, Tolima          | Three civilians injured by explosion of gas cylinder bomb: Luis Gonzaga Rodríguez, José Manuel Sierra, and María Gloria Sánchez.  | Destroyed: one civilian home.<br><br>Damaged: six civilian homes near the police station.  |
| August 25, 2001               | Santa María, Huila            | One civilian killed: José Sacatramboy, seventy-two years old.   | Destroyed: thirty civilian homes.<br><br>Damaged: forty other homes, the mayor's office, the Civil Registry, the court, banks, local businesses, a telecommunications company, and a school. |
| <b>September 28,<br/>2001</b> | <b>Almaguer,<br/>Cauca</b>    | No reported civilian casualties.  | Destroyed: the courts, the mayor's office, a telecommunications company, the Civil Registry, commercial establishments, and a school.  |
| October 8, 2001               | San José de Albán, Nariño     | Two civilians injured: Clemencia Castro and Moisés Paz.   | No damages to civilian objects reported.   |
| October 10, 2001              | Florida, Valle del Cauca      | One civilian killed: Evaristo Jordán Montenegro, thirty-seven years old.  | Destroyed: a court and several banks.<br><br>Damaged: the local Attorney General's office and several commercial establishments.   |
| October 17, 2001              | San Bernardo, Tolima          | No reported civilian casualties.  | Damaged: a school and various civilian homes.  |
| December 2, 2001              | San Lorenzo, Caldas           | One child killed by explosion of gas cylinder bomb: Blanca Milena Guapacha Taborda, age thirteen.<br><br>Three children injured: Olga Liliana Largo, age sixteen, Mónica Liliana Varela, age nine, and John Calvo, age two. | Destroyed: forty-five houses, a school, and a commercial center.<br><br>Damaged: a church.   |

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| December 12, 2001 | Inzá, Cauca                               | No reported civilian casualties.   | Destroyed: ten civilian residences, a communications company, the town market, a bank, and other commercial establishments.<br><br>Damaged: a school and other public offices. |
| December 17, 2001 | Prison in outskirts of Florencia, Caquetá | Three inmates killed.<br><br>Nine civilians injured: five inmates and four other civilians, including a nine-year-old child (Freddy Hernández, Carlos Andrés Blanquiceth, Gerardo Cortés, and Lourdes Betancourt). | Partially destroyed: the prison.   |
| December 31, 2001 | Puracé and Coconuco, Cauca                | No reported civilian casualties.   | Destroyed: various civilian homes.<br><br>Damaged: the church, various civilian homes, the local Attorney General's office, the mayor's offices, and a bank.                   |
| January 13, 2002  | San José de Albán, Nariño                 | One civilian killed: Miguel Díaz.  | Destroyed: various civilian homes and commercial establishments.   |
| January 16, 2002  | Tadó, Chocó                               | One civilian killed: Professor Marino Mosquera Perea.  | No reported material damages to civilian objects.  |
| January 20, 2002  | Aguas Blancas, el Cesar                   | One civilian killed by gas cylinder bomb explosion: María Teresa Díaz Argote, age sixty.<br><br>Injured: at least six civilians, including a fifteen-year-old boy.   | Destroyed: various civilian homes.   |
| January 25, 2002  | Valparaíso, Caquetá                       | No reported civilian casualties.   | Destroyed: a bridge.   |
| January 25, 2002  | Murillo, Tolima                           | Six civilians injured.   | Destroyed: at least six civilian homes, the municipal building, a bank, a court, and the market place.<br><br>Damaged: at least thirty civilian homes and a church.            |
| January 30, 2002  | Naval Base in Cabañote, Arauca            | Twelve civilians injured by gas cylinder bombs: five children (Laura Milena Tobon, Blanca Cecilia Camargo Lozano,  | Destroyed: various civilian houses close to the military base.   |

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|---|
|                          |                          | Laura Sepúlveda, Miguel Andrés López, and Juliana Vanesa Hermida) and seven adults (Olga Sepúlveda Guerrero, Iván Darío Laverde, Martín Rojas Becerra, Pedro Manuel Motta, Nelson Antonio Díaz Ruiz, Tránsito Gutiérrez Higuita and Javier Vanegas). |   |
| February 2, 2002         | Tame, Arauca             | <p>One civilian killed by gas cylinder bomb: Gloria Eudilia Riveros Rodríguez, age forty.</p> <p>Three civilians injured: ex-senator Aljadis Edmundo Gutiérrez Londoño, José Ever Torres, and Luis Enrique Medina.</p>                               | <p>Destroyed: civilian houses, the mayor's offices, a church, a pharmacy, and other commercial establishments.</p> <p>Damaged: a school, Oriental Femenino.</p> |
| February 24, 2002        | San Lorenzo, Caldas      | No reported civilian casualties.   | Damaged: several houses close to the police station.  |
| <b>March 19, 2002</b>    | Policarpa, Nariño        | One child killed: Edison Andrés España, age seven.   | Destroyed: at least ten civilian homes.   |
| March 20, 2002           | Tibú, Norte de Santander | No reported civilian casualties.   | No reported material damages to civilian objects.   |
| March 21, 2002           | Saravena, Arauca         | One civilian injured.  | Damaged: various local businesses, the local prosecutor's office, and the local Attorney General's office.  |
| April 9, 2002            | Tuluá, Valle del Cauca   | No reported civilian casualties.   | No reported material damages to civilian objects.   |
| April 9, 2002            | Buga, Valle de Cauca     | No reported civilian casualties.   | No reported material damages to civilian objects.   |
| <b>April 15, 2002</b>    | Colón-Genova, Nariño     | No reported civilian casualties.   | Damaged: various civilian homes.  |
| <b>April 16-17, 2002</b> | <b>La Cruz, Nariño</b>   | No reported civilian casualties.   | Destroyed: approximately 100 civilian homes, a church, and a religious convent.   |
| <b>April 21, 2002</b>    | Paujil, Caquetá          | No reported civilian casualties.   | Damaged: local hospital, the mayor's offices, and the local office of the Attorney General.   |