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## Colombia: Notes On Recent Violence

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## **Colombia: Notes On Recent Violence**

*by John Neagle*

*Category/Department: General*

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On Dec. 17, police reported that seven peasants had been assassinated by a group of bandits to avenge the death of Carlos Murcia Chaporro, alias "El Garbanzo." The killings took place in San Martin, San Pablo de Borbur municipality, in an area known as Esmeraldera de Boyaca, located 320 km. northwest of Bogota. El Garbanzo, his girlfriend and two bodyguards died in a shootout with police on Dec. 15 in south Bogota. Police received an anonymous telephone tip on his whereabouts. The gunmen was believed to have killed more than 1,000 persons in the Esmeraldera region. He had recently moved to Bogota to set up shop as a burglar and street robber. Police spokespersons said the seven victims had not yet been identified. The murders, they said, were engineered by El Garbanzo's associates led by his brother, Luis, alias El Pequines. (Basic data from AFP, 12/17/88; Washington Post, 12/19/88)

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