

22 Feb 90

~~SECRET~~ NOFORN

PROJECT SUN STREAK

WARNING NOTICE: INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

PROJECT NUMBER:	0126 (Tng)	SESSION NUMBER:	1
DATE OF SESSION:	12 FEB 90	DATE OF REPORT:	12 FEB 90
START:	1417	END:	1443
METHODOLOGY:	CRV	VIEWER IDENTIFIER:	052

1. (S/NF/SK) MISSION: To describe the target site (Volcano eruption in Columbia) in Stage 2 terminology.
 2. (S/NF/SK) VIEWER TASKING: Encrypted coordinates only.
 3. (S/NF/SK) COMMENTS: No Physical Inclemencies. 052 had progressed beautifully right up to the complete resolution of the site, when I inadvertently cued some site information into the session. I am teaching 052 to NEVER allow a monitor to "feed" into the session any information they may want the Viewer to get. I therefore apologized and had 052 abort the session, making note of my error.
 4. (S/NF/SK) EVALUATION: *1*
 5. (S/NF/SK) SEARCH EVALUATION: N/A
- MONITOR: 018

Good

HANDLE VIA SKEET CHANNELS ONLY

~~SECRET~~ NOFORN

CLASSIFIED BY: DIA (DT)
DECLASSIFY: OADR

052

12 Feb 90
Ft. Meade

1417

018

PI: none
AV: none

0126



miss Bk

0126



miss Bk

0126



A. Round / curved
soft
B. energetics

0126



A. Curvy
rough
B. —

0126

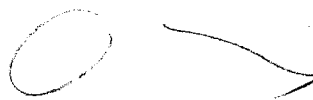


A. Curvy
moon shaped
hard
B. —

0126



A. Wavy Across
soft
B. Water



A. sloping peak
down

hard
mountain

0126

A. Wavy Across
soft.
B. water

A sloping down
sloping up
peak
down
hard

B. Hills + Mountain

52
Blue
Black

ADL BK
mountain

52
black
blue
cold
blue part
green

smooth
shiny
icy

AOL BK
Volcano erupting
Hot
Red
Rumble

S2
Rumble

Session 1443

Session was aborted —
monitor fed information
that viewer was on a mountain.

Weather

Today: Partly sunny. High 61-66. Low 37-42. Wind NE 10-20 mph. Saturday: Cloudy, 30 percent chance of rain. High 50-56. Yesterday: AQ: 60, Temp. range 55-77. Details on Page C2.

The Washington Post

Sections

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C Metro/Obituaries/Classified
D Sports
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Inside Weekend
Detailed Index on Page A2

108TH YEAR ... No. 345

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1985

Higher in Areas Approximately 75 Miles From Border of Colombia (See Post on A4)

25c

Colombian Volcano Erupts, Killing Thousands



Unidentified child pulled from house hit by 15-foot wall of mud silt dazed near Armero.

Survivors Recall Night of Horror

By Bradley Graham
Washington Post Foreign Service

MARIQUITA, Colombia, Nov. 14—It came over them in the black of night, with the suddenness and force of a giant wave, swallowing everything in its wake.

Survivors of Armero, the Colombian cotton-growing town drowned in a river of mud and stones after the Nevado del Ruiz volcano erupted, told today of a night of horror in which family members were torn from each other as they struggled for air and secure ground.

Caked with mud, burned by the scalding temperature of the river of dirt and debris that overwhelmed their town, cut and battered from being dragged hundreds of yards across the valley floor, some of the victims of Armero were brought here to this neighboring village by Red Cross, Civil Guard and Army units.

They were unloaded from helicopters and transported in jeeps, trucks and other makeshift ambulances to a small, overcrowded country hospital. There they lay on crowded beds or cots and waited, many with tubes in their arms feeding medicine, to be evacuated to hospitals in Bogota.

Some wept. Others, dressed only in the underwear or bedclothes they had on when the disaster struck, shivered in shock in the warm air here.

The stories they recounted had haunting similarities—about awakening in their homes before midnight to cries of alarm and a heavy rain of ash, about grabbing children and the elderly, then fleeing to the streets, about finding nowhere to run as the Lagunilla River, normally just a tributary of the valley's main Magdalena River, turned into a raging mass of liquid earth.

Doris Rico Aklania, 21, said the river of mud and rocks came crashing through the doors and windows of her home, pursuing

See ARMERO, A34, Col. 5



Covered with mud and volcanic ash, a couple holds daughter after being rescued from Armero.

Red Cross Sees Toll Up to 20,000

By Bradley Graham
Washington Post Foreign Service

MARIQUITA, Colombia, Nov. 14—A volcano in central Colombia erupted last night, triggering floods in valleys below that buried large sections of at least two towns under tons of mud and rubble. Government and Red Cross officials said the death toll could reach 20,000.

President Betancur declared a national emergency as Army, Civil Defense and Red Cross teams rushed to the disaster zone located around the 17,400-foot Nevado del Ruiz volcano, about 85 miles northwest of Bogota.

"The tragedy is immeasurable," said the president, who visited the devastated region this morning. "It is a new tragedy that has hit Colombia," he said, alluding to the siege of the Palace of Justice in Bogota last week in which 97 persons were killed. "But I'm sure that with the solidarity of the world and in the country, we will overcome," he added.

Part of the volcano's top exploded late yesterday, breaking off chunks of snow near the summit. The ice melted rapidly into cascading waters that gathered dirt and debris and turned the rivers at the mountain's base into killer currents.

The inundation took inhabitants of this farming region by surprise during the night, despite recent warnings that the mountain might erupt. It had been dormant for 400 years but had become restless in recent months.

Colombian geologists said the volcano, the second highest peak in Colombia's central range of the Andes, might continue erupting, further threatening populations below it.

The government issued urgent appeals

See VOLCANO, A34, Col. 1

Months of harmonic tremors preceded the Nevado del Ruiz blast. Page A34



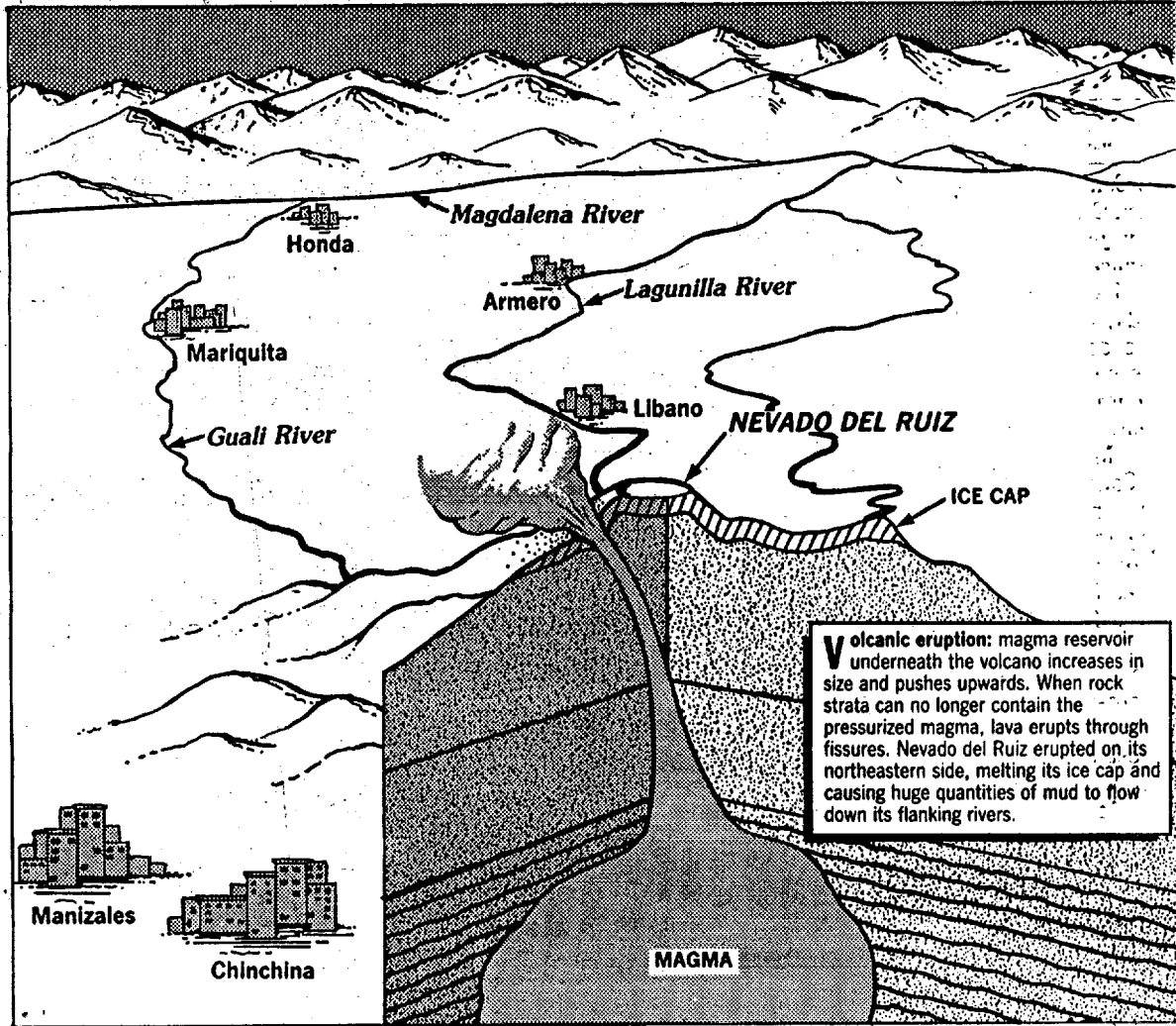
Three children, whose parents are missing, sleep in the back of a truck as they wait for a helicopter to lift them out of Armero. The girl in the foreground has a broken left ankle.

CPYRGHT

WASHINGTON POST

THE NEVADA DEL RUIZ

CPYRGHT



Volcanic eruption: magma reservoir underneath the volcano increases in size and pushes upwards. When rock strata can no longer contain the pressurized magma, lava erupts through fissures. Nevado del Ruiz erupted on its northeastern side, melting its ice cap and causing huge quantities of mud to flow down its flanking rivers.

BY JO ELLEN MURPHY — THE WASHINGTON POST

largest mud slides in South American history. The USGS' Dr. Darrel G. Herd described it as a "wall of mud, trees and ice that went racing down the valley to the Rio Magdalena, killing an estimated 1,000 people" then living in the valley.

Why did Nevado del Ruiz go almost 400 years without a major eruption? Geologists say they don't know, but many suspect it is in the makeup of the magma that lies below the volcanoes that formed the Andes Mountains.

"The magmas in the Andes are very viscous and stickier, let's say, than the magmas that lie beneath the Hawaiian volcanoes," Christian-

sen said. This means they retain their gases, allowing pressure to build, rather than venting them in a way that would relieve the pressure that builds up inside volcanoes, he said. "Hawaiian volcanoes are always blowing off pressure, which might be one reason they don't erupt catastrophically."

Another reason lies with volcanoes themselves, among the most unpredictable phenomena of nature. Said Dr. Meyer Rubin of the USGS: "Volcanoes can go 1,000 years without an eruption. There's no way to predict their behavior."

The upward movement of magma can continue off and on for years,

building in strength until it exceeds the weight of the rocks above that are holding it in. The result can be another eruption. The twin eruption of Nevado del Ruiz Wednesday night could thus signal the start of an eruptive period that could last another 10 years.

There is also the chance that Nevado del Ruiz will have an impact on the world's weather. Depend on how much sulfur dioxide gas pumps into the upper atmosphere the erupting volcano could send a cloud of gas and dust around the world blocking just enough sunlight from reaching the surface to cool the earth by a degree or two.

