

FARC head found guilty of kidnapping

by UPI

BOGOTA -- A senior leader of Colombia's largest leftist rebel group was convicted Monday in the United States of plotting the kidnapping of three Americans.

Ricardo Palmera, also known as Simon Trinidad, was found guilty of orchestrating the capture of three U.S. defense contractors after they crashed in the Colombian jungle in 2003, El Tiempo reported online.

The jury also was deliberating on terror charges against Palmera.

Palmera is the most senior official of the leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, to be sent to the United States to face criminal charges.

FARC has been fighting the Colombian government for more than 40 years and is considered a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department and the Colombian government.

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