Submarines are cartels' new secret weapon Homemade submersibles are increasingly the preferred means of transport for Colombian drug cartels. Despite their crude appearance, they can carry up to 10 tonnes of cocaine and evade advanced military equipment **SUBMARINES** Periscope: Two cameras, for day and night vision, monitor Profile based on vessel found ocean surface while submerged February 12, near Timbiqui Diesel engine: Hull: 3cm-thick Crew: 4 GPS, satellite 346hp fibreglass telephone, radar Fuel tanks

Generator **Ballast tanks:** Capacity: 8 tonnes of cocaine Allow vessel to submerge to 9m Air conditioning hidden under wooden floor

Range: 1,450km Speed: 7 knots Cost: Over \$2m Length: 26m

SEMI-SUBMERSIBLES Crudely designed like speedboats with another hull on top - travel just beneath Ventilation and surface to escape detection exhaust pipes

NARCO TORPEDOES Cargo container, weighted with ballast, towed 30m under water by fishing

America and Mexico

boat. If ship is intercepted, While still submerged, torpedo torpedo is automatically releases buoy concealed released

as wooden log and equipped with Subs location transmitter for back-up boat **COLOMBIA MEXICO** to retrieve and continue journey take around **PACIFIC** two weeks Experts estimate 70% of cocaine **OCEAN** from Colombia leaving Colombia's Pacific coast in Timbiqui to drop-off 2009 was packed aboard semi-subs points in Central

@ GRAPHIC NEWS Sources: Wire agencies

Largest versions

equipped with GPS, can carry up to seven tonnes of drugs