

Colombia government in talks with FARC

Colombia's main leftist FARC guerrilla group and the government are beginning peace talks in Norway in an effort to end a conflict that has claimed tens of thousands of lives over nearly half a century



Humberto de la Calle
Chief government negotiator. Held vice presidency under President **Ernesto Samper** and cabinet posts under several former leaders



Ivan Marquez
Member of FARC's ruling six-man Secretariat expected to head guerrillas' negotiating team. Other negotiators include **Andres Paris**, **Marco Leon Calarca** and **Rodrigo Granda**



● **FARC "fronts":** Rebels believed to have about 65 fronts, each with 100-300 fighters. U.S.-funded Colombian military offensive which began in 2000 has cut FARC's estimated strength in half, to 9,000



FARC's top commander, **Timoleon Jimenez** (left), is reported to be in favour of dialogue. Other FARC leaders such as **Joaquin Gomez** and **Fabian Ramirez** will be absent from talks, leading some to question whether rebel group is wholly behind peace initiative