



**DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
SOUTH WEST BORDER  
KIDNAPPINGS & NARCO-VIOLENCE**

**AN SD-LECC INTELLIGENCE  
PERSPECTIVE**

**MR. LEE CHARLTON**

**Senior Intelligence Research Specialist**

**DEA-San Diego Intelligence Group I**

**858.616.4174**

**SD-LECC Team 7**

**AUGUST 27, 2007**





## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES



### *Presentation Caveat*

*A portion of the data presented in this program was derived from various Articles of Interest publications that consist of selective Mexican news media translations as provided by Mr. James Woerner, San Diego County Sheriff's Office. Mr. Woerner is assigned presently to the San Diego-Law Enforcement Coordination Center.*

*Other data may have been incorporated from other public source documentation, as well as, unclassified but sensitive government documents that contribute to the nature of the study.*

*Data assessments and views presented in this slide presentation are those of the speaker. Inquiries to arrange for an interpretive presentation of the data contained herein may be directed to the attention of Mr. Lee Charlton, Senior Intelligence Research Specialist, DEA-San Diego, Intelligence Group I/SD-LECC Team 7, 858.616.4174.*



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

**PART I. The Nature of the Problem**

**PART II. Militarization of the DTOs**

**PART III. Situational Analyses**



# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## PART I. The Nature of the Problem



# Southwest Border Violence



'Guisos'



Decapitations

## MURDER



Acribillan a  
Sub Delegado  
de la PGR

Prosecutors

11/28/2007



Local Police

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -



Federal Agents



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES STRATFOR's Border View On The Increasing Risk of Abductions



- **Stratfor.com** (International Intel Analytical Service)
  - *Mexico believed to be No. 1 country in Latin America for kidnappings*
  - *1000 victims since 2005 of which 43 have died in captivity*
  - *Surpasses Colombia which had been the world leader in kidnappings*
  - *Violence attributed to drug traffickers and kidnappers---often the same people who may have been crossing the border into US towns—esp. Laredo-McAllen, TX corridor*
- *Some variations are equally applicable to US / BCN border cities*



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES STRATFOR's Border View On The Increasing Risk of Abductions – cont'd

- *50 cross-border abductions reported in TX Rio Grande Valley—unknown numbers of unreported incidents*
- *Abductions occur in plain view in a public place*
- *Victims are beaten, shoved in a vehicle, and taken across the US-Mexico border*
- *Beatings continue while victims friends/family are contacted to extort money.*
- *After payment, victims are dumped and left to find own way home---some totally disappear.*



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
STRATFOR DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
STRATFOR's Border View On The  
Increasing Risk of Abductions – cont'd

- *Victims may not be classic Kidnapping-for-ransom cases wherein they are chosen based on amounts a family can pay...if not...that's coming.*
- *Victims are generally involved in drug trafficking organizations in the area*
- *In Laredo, TX 10-15% of US side of border cases involve business owners or others not connected to organized crime*



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES STRATFOR's Border View On The Increasing Risk of Abductions-cont'd

- *Kidnappings go unreported on both sides of the border due to fear that victims will be killed; or*
- *Victims are involved in criminal activities and are reluctant to involve the authorities; or*
- *Victims over-rely on local US authorities for protection and do not practice vigilance and situational awareness*



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES STRATFOR's Border View On The Increasing Risk of Abductions-cont'd

- *US citizens or Mexican nationals residing in US may become vulnerable to allied abductions by kidnapping teams operating out of Mexico or US.*
- *The more kidnappings that gangs conduct, the finer the hone of their craft. Eventually, they graduate to higher-value targets in higher economic communities.*
- *Until a prominent US citizen is abducted, the problem will not receive much attention in the media or from the public.*



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*



### 2006: OPEN SOURCE INFO

- **Estimated 2000 to 3100 persons were victims of drug-related murders in Mexico in 2006**
- **Approximately 100 were law enforcement personnel or other government officials**
- **2007 will surpass the numbers of 2006 fatalities based on the current ratio of killings**



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES



### 2007 OPEN SOURCE INFO

- Between Jan.-July 2007.. In Mexico: 1200 + drug trafficking-related executions have occurred ..... of which at least
- 70+ occurred in Sonora...most in Hermosillo, a former "truce city" among traffickers of the Sinaloa / Gulf DTO organizations
- An unknown-- but significant-- number continues to occur in State of Nuevo Laredo and Tamaulipas...
- As well as: Baja California Norte, Tabasco, Guerrero, Michoacan, Veracruz, Sinaloa, Nayarit, Chiapas and Coahuila.
- All Mexico States are experiencing numerous law enforcement deaths, as well, as multiple kidnappings occurring weekly.
- BCN Media: As of 7/20/07 there have been **91 abductions in Tijuana** since 01/01/07. Seven occurred in two days in July.



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES



### TYPES OF TARGETED VIOLENCE

#### Evaluated Incident Material

- Random Kidnap For Ransom With Release
- Random Kidnap For Ransom/Information using Torture with Non-release involving body dumps or Acid/Lye "Pozole" elimination
- Kidnap For Information by Torture, then killing
- Kidnapping by "Tax Collectors"-Failure To Pay Operation Taxes within a Plaza



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* TYPES OF TARGETED VIOLENCE

- Kidnap For Warning To Government /Enemies with specific **MESSAGES** attached



- Kidnap Of Competitors For Assassinations / Murders



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

# KIDNAP GANG STRUCTURES



- Former/Current law enforcement officers as a team member with selective gangs
- Former Mid-level Traffickers resorting to kidnappings due to declining narcotics access and high violence associated with DTO warfare
- Disenfranchised/Independent teams acting randomly--- domestic or international
- DTO teams using former military deserters trained in extractions, assassinations, and assaults
- Affiliated Domestic US street gangs serving multiple DTOs as Independent Contracted Kidnap-assassination teams



# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

## Types of Violence To Victims

### ■ Evaluated Methods

- Physical beating, torture, release on street, or body dumped on street or lot
- Torture involving beating, tooth removal, appendage removal, Death by torture, strangulation, single shot to head and/or multiple shots to head/ body
- Same as above with head/face fully/partially wrapped with duct tape/other head wrappings
- Beheadings with or without written messages on bodies or in vehicles
  - **(When did these start? Indicative of indigenous tribes)**



# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## **2005 BODY DISPOSALS-Tijuana**



11/28/2007

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

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# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## **2005 BODY DISPOSALS-Tijuana-cont'd**



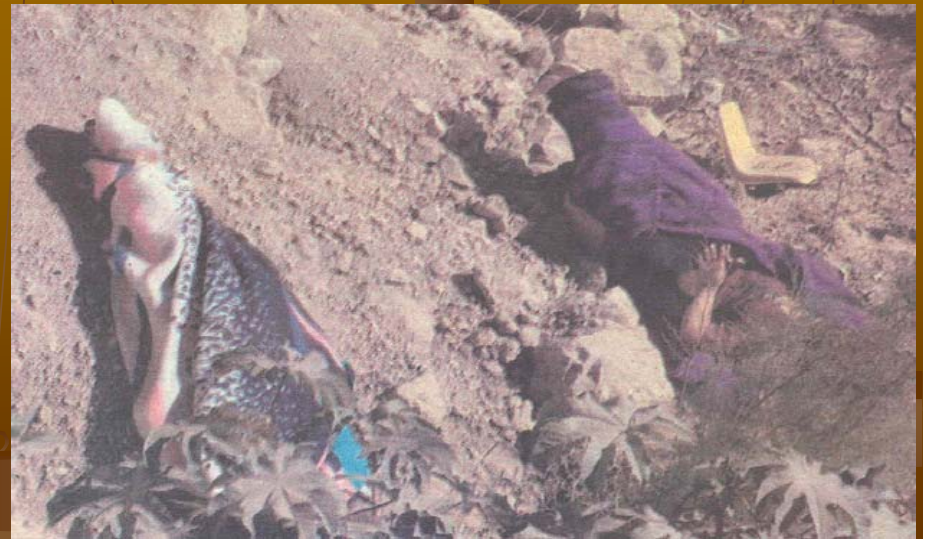
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- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

18



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES 2005 BODY DISPOSALS-Tijuana-cont'd



11/28/2007

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

19



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES 2005 BODY DISPOSALS –Tijuana-cont'd



NOTE: Duct taped head-facial areas. This is a modified method of that used by Zeta kidnap teams in other areas of Mexico.



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES 2005 BODY DISPOSALS –Tijuana-cont'd



NOTE: Duct Tape head wrappings plus a blindfold.



# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* **2005 BODY DISPOSALS –Tijuana** **Alternate “Pozole” Method**





# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES 2005 BODY DISPOSALS –Tijuana Alternate “Pozole” Method-cont’d





# PART I. The nature of the problem- continued

## LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER INVOLVEMENT



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

### 10 DTO Enforcers: Ensenada Police Officers

### August 2005

**Members of Death Squad Returned to Ensenada** Despite security concerns, ten former members of the Ensenada Municipal Police accused of acting as enforcers for the Arellano Félix Organization (AFO) have been transferred from the modern high-security "El Hongo" State Prison in the Municipality of Tecate to the less secure state facility in the port city of Ensenada.



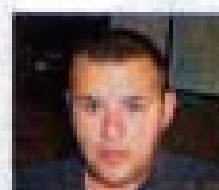
Gustavo de la Luz Rosales.



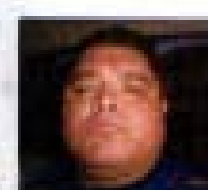
Cristian Alejandro García López, "Nacido".



Isaac Manuel Valdez Cervilla.



Juan Pablo Berrelveza Hernández.



José Enrique Silva Urutia.



Paul Nicolás Soto Luna.



Alberto Villalobos Peña.



Jorge Alberto Cisneros Rodríguez, "El Bobo".



Noel Israel López Murriguoz.



Francisco Javier Barriga Murillo.

The former officers were arrested on August 12, 2005 and immediately transferred to Mexico City for confinement and possible federal prosecution. They were returned to Ensenada on December 20<sup>th</sup> to face



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

### 2005 Police Officer Corruption In Tijuana, BCN

- **10/13/2005: six active Municipal and State Judicial Police Officers known as the “Black Commandos” were arrested for their links to organized crime**



• Luis COSME-Espinoza



• Francisco SALAZAR-Arambula



• Carlos COSME-Espinoza



• Jose MENDEZ-Moncada



• Francisco NORIEGA-Alacron



• Eduardo CHAGOLLA-Carrillo



# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES Police Officer Corruption In Tijuana- Rosarito, BCN December 2005



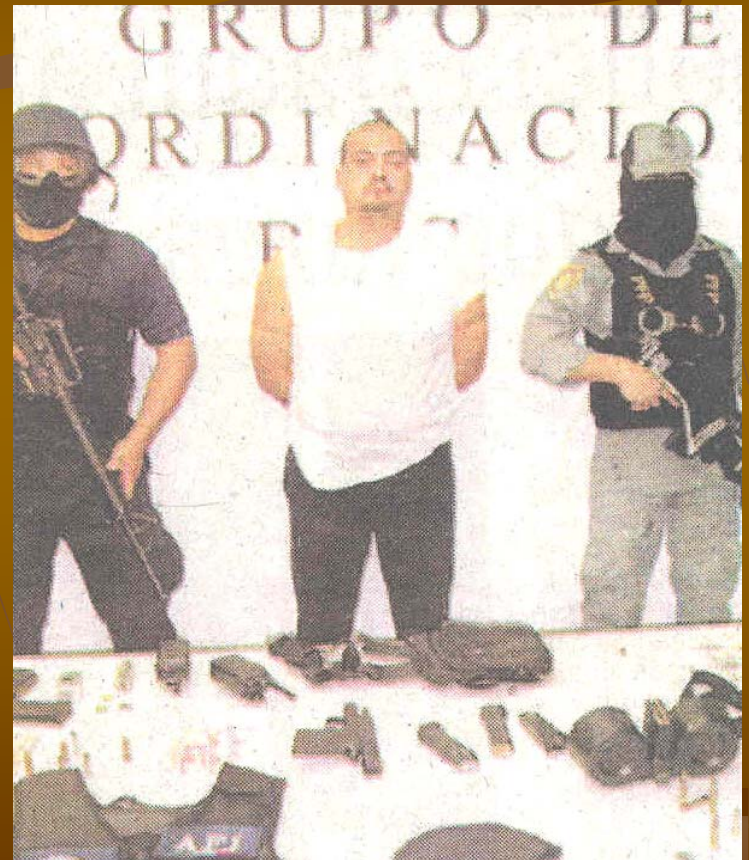
**12/01/2005:**

**Heriberto YOC-Hernandez,**

**Assistant Police Chief of Public**

**Security in Tijuana was**  
**arrested in Rosarito, BCN.**

[Notice the AFI uniform vest in the lower  
left corner of the photo.]





# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## HOLDING CELLS IN RESIDENCES

03/28/2006



The cell on the left held five men. The cell on the left was in a separate room and not occupied. Authorities believe that the group was planning to abduct still more victims



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES HOLDING CELLS IN RESIDENCES-cont'd 03/28/2006 ARRESTEES

The rescue operation resulted in the apprehension of:

- Ismael Arredondo Pérez, a.k.a. "El Mayel", of El Fuerte, Sinaloa
- Pedro Rodríguez Godínez, a.k.a. "El Chucki", of Puruándiro, Michoacán
- Iván de Jesús Rodríguez Martínez, age 25, of Tijuana
- Eduardo Moreno Gutiérrez, age 27, of Mazatlán, Sinaloa
- Héctor Cortez Montaña, of Oaxaca, Oaxaca, brother-in-law of Pedro Rodríguez Godínez

They have been sent to Mexico City for prosecution by federal authorities on organized crime charges.



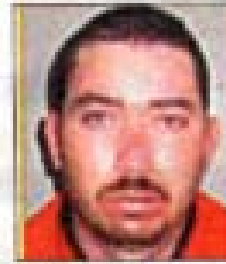
Ismael Arredondo,  
El Fuerte, Sinaloa.



Pedro Rodríguez,  
Puruándiro, Mich.



Jesús I. Rodríguez,  
Tijuana, B.C.



Eduardo Moreno,  
Mazatlán, Sinaloa.



Héctor Cortez,  
Oaxaca, Oaxaca.



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* **HOLDING CELLS IN RESIDENCES** **DEATH CELL-TWO BODIES** **March 2006-cont'd**



The second holding cell was found inside a home located at Calle Paseo Pericué #164 in the Colonia Guayacura neighborhood of Tijuana's La Presa Precinct. There authorities found the decaying bodies of two individuals, subsequently identified as Jesús Rafael Orozco Alfaro, age 21 and his sixteen year old brother Jesús Roberto, who had been shot in the head, execution style, with a 9mm pistol. Documents found at the site led police to yet another site where they captured Héctor Genaro Rodríguez Martínez, a.k.a. "El Negro", age 26, who confessed that he was the brother of Iván de Jesús Rodríguez Martínez and an associate of the group mentioned above.



Cell that held bodies



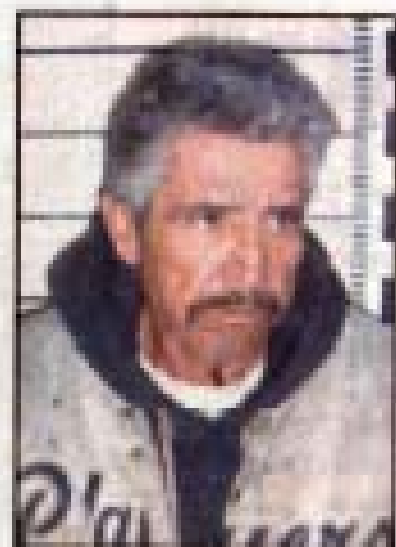
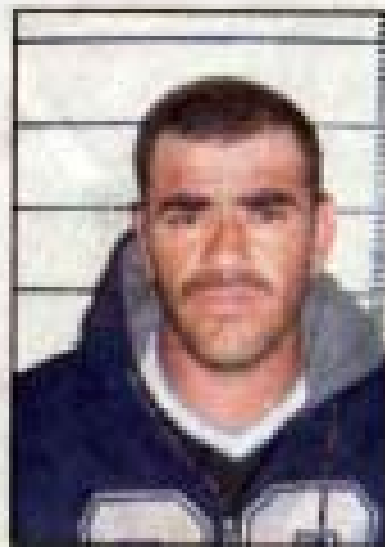
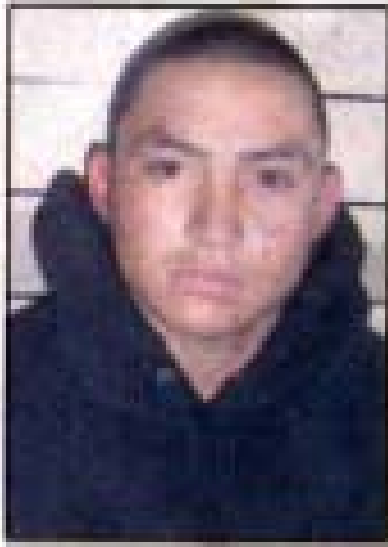
Héctor Genaro Rodríguez Martínez



# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

## 2006 Tecate Kidnapping Team

### 03/30/2006-cont'd



[Comment: David Cazares Zazueta has been long identified with a major Arellano Félix Organization associated narcotrafficking group once headed by Manuel Herrera Barraza, a.k.a. "El Tarzán. See the May 2004 issue of this publication for related reporting.]



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* 06/16/2006 Arrested Kidnapping Team

- Abduction Team involved in possibly 11 separate kidnappings

- Sergio Molina Garcia
- Oscar Eliazib Zamora Burrel
- Jesús Alonso Sapién Varela
- Félix Zamora Almeida





*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
**08/07/2006: Tijuana DTO Enforcement Team**

- (Left) **Jorge Alberto ACOSTA-Valdés**, age 20, of Navolato, Sinaloa
- (Right) **Alex Noel CASTILLO-González**, [aka. "El Pollo"], age 30, of Navolato, Sinaloa



**NOT SHOWN: Javier RUELAS-Ortiz**, age 34, aka. "El Rambo". He is believed to be the leader of the cell. He was wounded in one arm and an ankle during the battle. According to neighbors he was a notorious "pollero" (alien smuggler).



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES



8/07/2006:DTO Enforcement Squad-cont'd

During questioning in Tijuana, **RUELAS- Ortiz** told interrogators that **he had also participated in abductions and slayings** carried out by the *“Comando Negro”* of Ensenada which was dismantled in August of 2005.

[refer next slide]

Significance is that the **“Black Commandos”**, police officers all, used the **POZOLE** method based on the container found in the residence.



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
*“Comando Negro” Reference*  
**[2005 Police Officer Corruption In Tijuana, BCN]**

- **10/13/2005: six active Municipal and State Judicial Police Officers known as the “Black Commandos” were arrested for their links to organized crime**



• Luis COSME-Espinoza



• Carlos COSME-Espinoza



• Francisco NORIEGA-Alacron



• Francisco SALAZAR-Arambula



• Jose MENDEZ-Moncada



• Eduardo CHAGOLLA-Carrillo



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

08/07/2006: AFO Enforcement Squad in Custody-Cont'd

### *“POZOLE” Container*

Also found in the house were two 200 liter drums that had been welded together to make a “pozole” pot and several bags of lye.

[Easier to load and empty than the single barrel.]





# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## 09/25/06 DTO Associated Tijuana Crew Used A Complicit Tijuana Police Officer

The Tijuana band was comprised of the following individuals:

- José Ángel Román Armenta, age 36, of Culiacán, Sinaloa. He was the leader of the band
- Miguel Angel Martínez Quiñones, age 25
- Cristian Armando Martínez Quiñones, age 22
- Marco Antonio López Ballesteros, age 32



**TJUANA.- MIGUEL ÁNGEL** Martínez Quiñones, Marco Antonio López Ballesteros José Ángel Román Armenta y Cristian Armando Martínez Quiñones, secuestraban a comerciantes.



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

### **09/25/06 DTO Associated Tijuana Crew –cont'd**

The group's *modus operandi* used a complicit Tijuana Municipal Police officer in an official vehicle to make a "traffic stop" on their targets in order to facilitate their abduction. That officer, whose name was not released, is now a fugitive. Román Armenta indicated that the group was allied over the years with Ismael "El Mayel" Higuera Guerrero and Arturo "El Nalgón" Villarreal Heredia. At least eight persons were murdered on the order of "El Mayel" and the bodies dumped on public streets. The jobs performed for "El Nalgón" were limited to kidnappings.

***Affiliated with NW DTO in BCN***



# *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

## 09/25/06 2<sup>nd</sup> DTO CREW IN ENSENADA



The Ensenada band was comprised of the following individuals;

- Marco Antonio Hernández Izaguirre, age 28
- Leonardo Rosas Iribe, age 28
- Jesús de la Rocha Pérez, age 32



ENSENADA.- MARCO ANTONIO Hernández Izaguirre, Leonardo Rosas Iribe y Jesús de la Rocha Pérez aprehendidos poco después de secuestrar a un agricultor de Maneadero, Ensenada.



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES

### **01/29/2007: "POZOLE" Kidnap Team Former PME Officer Involvement**



- A DTO abduction/murder team was captured by the Baja California Public Safety Coordination Group.
- Israel Arturo SILVA Aquirre, age 29. A former Ensenada, BCN State officer (Policia Ministerial del Estado/PME) was among the three members who were arrested.
- Oswaldo Guadalupe MILLAN Moreno, aka "El Papi", age 26, of Mazatlan, SI;
- Armando NAVA Millan, aka "El Diablo or El Pret", age 32 of Acapulco, GU.

[No Photos Available]



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
**“POZOLE” Kidnap Team**  
**Former PME Officer Involvement-cont’d**

- Authorities seized three AR-15 assault rifles, three AK-47 assault rifles, several cellular telephones, and **radio transceivers set to police frequencies and their corresponding codes.**
- **The detainees admitted they had been involved in six kidnappings to extract payment of fees for various criminal activities conducted in the Tijuana and Mexicali plazas.**
- **The victims were murdered with their bodies being disposed of by placing them in drums of lye and/or acid.**



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

### 03/31/2007: DTO Kidnapping Team

### Officer Involvement

A DTO kidnapping cell comprised of **six men and two unidentified women** were taken into custody.

Two members were current / former Mexico police officers

Two unidentified kidnapping victims were freed as a result of the operation.



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
**03/31/2007 DTO Kidnapping Team**  
**Officer Involvement-cont'd**



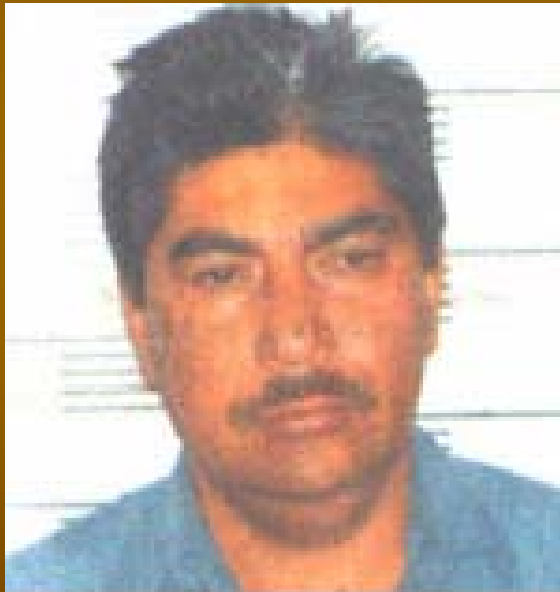
- Leader: **Víctor Magno Escobar Luna** (aka "El Pareja", "El Matapolicías", "El 3-1" "el Padrino",)
- A former police officer who has been linked to numerous murders in recent years.
- He is the subject of at least five narco-corridos (ballads).
- His brother, Richard, was killed in Chula Vista/ Bonita, CA area in August 2005.



Victor Magno Escobar Luna



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
**03/31/2007 DTO Kidnapping Team**  
**Officer Involvement-cont'd**



**Carlos Castro**

- **Carlos CASTRO**, an active member of the Tijuana Municipal Police Department
- **Detained in a vehicle** while providing protection to ESCOBAR-Luna at the arrest site.



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES 03/31/2007 DTO Kidnapping Team Officer Involvement-cont'd

- Authorities seized eight rifles, two handguns, hundreds of rounds of ammunition, several police radios, including a unit of the MATRA system, twelve cellular telephones, bulletproof vests, and three vehicles.





## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*

### MAY 2007 Nuevo Laredo Kidnapping Similarities

- 05/11/2007. Nuevo Laredo, TP. Federal police and soldiers arrested three kidnappers and freed two kidnapping victims who had been blindfolded and chained in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.



- [NOTE: Head wrapping allows for breathing.]



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* MAY 2007 Nuevo Laredo Kidnapping Similarities



Various weapons were also seized to include five AR-15 rifles, one machine gun, two handguns, one grenade, 1641 cartridges and 22 magazines.



**DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
06/02/07 TIJUANA KIDNAPPER ARRESTED &  
4 HOSTAGES RELEASED-cont'd**



[Source: *El Sol de Tijuana* and *Frontera* on 06/04/2007]



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
**08/08/2007 Tijuana Kidnapping Team**  
Former TJ Officer Involvement

- Daniel Anguiano Chávez, age 27 of Uruapan, Michoacán, a former Tijuana Municipal police officer arrested with 4 others

*Capture based on leads from a 7/20/2007 kidnapping of a doctor's wife in Tijuana---freed 13 days later after ransom payment.*

*Ring leader ("El Software") cell phone instructions while confined at Mexico's Altiplano prison in Almoloya de Juarez (Family members in other kidnaping teams –NW MX DTO)*





# PART II. MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS

THE CARTELS' BATTLE GROUNDS,  
THE ZETAS & THE KABILES



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOs



- There are notable indications that the DTOs in Mexico are becoming increasingly militarized in order to survive, as well as, extend their territories.
  - *Los ZETAS* have been linked to numerous assassinations throughout Mexico, primarily in the states of Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Sonora, Guerrero, Quintana Roo, and Vera Cruz with a presence in other key States.
  - PGR reported in July 2007 that ZETAS had an estimated 30 hit teams in 9 Mexico States each being comprised of 6 or more members



# NARCO-BATTLEFRONTS 2003



- Nuevo Laredo Corridor
- Golden Triangle
- Tijuana and Baja California





# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*



- One of the current leaders of the ZETAS is **Heriberto Lazcano-Lazcano**, aka "**Lazca**" and "**El Verdugo**" (the Executioner), reputedly one of the most violent members of the organization.
- Sources indicate that, prior to joining the ZETAS, he was an infantry corporal and a GAFE member in the Mexican military, assigned to the Tamaulipas region in the late 1990s to fight drug traffickers. In 1998, he was recruited by Osiel Cardenas-Guillen of Gulf Cartel.





## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- The McAllen, TX Intelligence Center has documented over 270 ZETAS and ZETA associates.
- FBI sources suggest that the actual number is even higher. Mexico media sources list the number at 2000.
- The principal ZETAS are distinguished by their military background (although not an absolute) and the extent to which they participate in the more critical enforcement and security Operations for the Gulf Cartel.



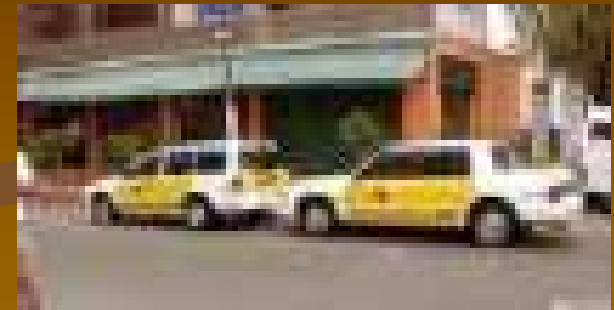
# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*



- ***Multi-functional.*** ZETAS are adaptive in their responsibilities for logistical and operational duties. They provide
  - security,
  - conduct surveillance and counter-intelligence,
  - logistical support,
  - weapons procurement ,
  - conduct enforcement operations and
  - recruit new members or associates from local populations.



# ZETA Intelligence Network



- **State Ministerial Police/Federal de Caminos**
- **Los Halcones/Panteras**
- **Los Ventanas**
- **La Mana Kidnapping group**
- **Communications Group**

**\* Monitor & document all police and military communications**



[Source ATF]

11/28/2007

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

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# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- ZETAS simulate use of law enforcement equipment/operational methods such as police dashboard lights and police-style road blocking methods to impede the path of vehicles during kidnapping operations.
- Additionally,
  - the ZETAS are known to wear military/AFI/ police uniforms;
  - carry official looking credentials to disguise themselves as police officers or federal agents when carrying out operations...
  - *But then so do most DTO Enforcement/Kidnapping Operatives.*



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
*Los Zetas & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

*2005: Kaibiles Train GULF Hit Men*

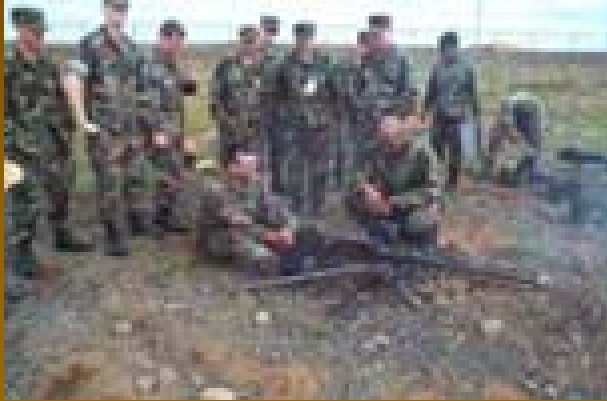
*October 31, 2005 (El Universal). The PGR has confirmed the presence of at least 30 Kaibiles soldiers of the elite Guatemalan Army group—in Mexico, who were contracted to train the new generation of hit men for the Gulf Cartel.*

*The Assistant Director of Mexico's Organized Crime Investigations Unit (SIEDO), Jose Luis Santiago Vasconcelos, confirmed that the former members of the Guatemalan Kaibil Special Forces formed an alliance with Mexican drug traffickers about one year ago (2004).*



# ZETA/ZETITA Force Multiplication

## Recruitment & Training



- **Established a special forces Kaibiles style training camp to train new recruits run by “former Kaibiles”**
- Camp located between Rio Bravo and Valle Hermosa, Tamaulipas
- Training directed by Jorge Lopez “El Chuta” & Jesus Enrique Rejon Aguilar “El Mamito”
- **Recruit active and former military mostly from Veracruz, Puebla, and Oaxaca**
- Poor and undereducated
- Formed into cells under 1 leader

[Source: ATF]



# *EX-GAFES*

*(Grupos Aeromoviles de Fuerzas Especiales)*



- Highly trained in airborne operations
- Counterinsurgency...Later Counter drug trafficking
- 57- 100 Groups of the GAFEs distributed around the Republic of Mexico
- Trained in rescue operations
- Special Forces tactical operations



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

## **EX-GANFES**

(Grupos Anfíbios de Fuerzas Especiales)



- Created to compliment the GAFES
- Sea to land operations
- Approximately 40 GANFE groups



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- **PGR: Los ZETAS have recruited former Guatemalan *Los Kaibiles* or former Mexican military Kaibil trained members into their ranks.**
- **Up to 30 *Kaibiles* have been identified by the PGR as cooperating with drug traffickers in Mexico. [Total numbers serving the DTOs are unknown.]**
- **2005. Three former *Kaibiles* were picked up within two month's time by the CBP (USBP): one near**

**San Diego, CA July 26, 2005;**

**Pharr, TX, Port of Entry (POE) August 4, 2005;**

**Laredo, TX POE (26 miles east) September 6, 2005.**



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- CHIAPAS. JUNE 2007. Following a kidnapping of two persons.

Guatemala confirmed that one of the four alleged Zetas, Carlos PEREZ Hernández, is a member of the Guatemalan military.

Officers seized seven fragmentation grenades, a grenade launcher, three AR-15s, two AK-47s, an Uzi, two new 9.mm handguns with magazines, three metal helmets, four AR-15 magazines, five tactical vests, and two AFI credentials in the name of Fernando López Rojas and Óscar Zapata.



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
*Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

■ ***WHO ARE "LOS KAIBILES"***

***"The Kaibil is a killing machine."***

- [1] Commission for Historical Clarification. "Conclusions," *Guatemala: Memory of Silence* (Guatemala: CEH, February 1999),



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los Zetas & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- These Special Forces soldiers were named after Kaibil Balam, the indigenous Imperial Mam ruler of the late-Mayan empire, who was never captured by the Spanish conquistadores led by Pedro de Alvarado.
- A city bearing the name of Kaibil Balam is located in northeastern Guatemala.



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
*MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS*  
*Los Zetas & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- **The Guatemalan Army Commando School** (*Escuela de Comandos*) was created on December 5, 1974.
- Three months later, on March 5, 1975, the Ministry of Defense renamed the school-- the **Kaibil Center for Training and Special Operations** (*Centro de Adiestramiento y Operaciones Especiales Kaibil*).



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
*Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*  
**KAIBIL PATCHES**





*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

**KAIBILES IN TRAINING MODE**





## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS Los Zetas & Los Kabiles-cont'd*



11/28/2007

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

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*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*



## GT Kaibil Special Units On UN Assignment In Africa





## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- **Guatemalan Kaibil training is done in groups of 6 to 7 persons, one of whom is usually a certified trainer.**
- **According to one Mexican official of the Kaibil graduate program, the Guatemalan officers train Mexican soldiers to act in small groups of six individuals in hostile climatic and varying terrain conditions.**
- **It appears: When trained by Mexican Kaibil graduates, Mexican forces are trained in groups of 10-15 persons. That equates to ZETA formations as reported in the media.**



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

## MEXICO MILITARY KAIBIL TRAINING CAMPS (1999)

Between 1994 and 1999, over 1000 Mexican military personnel (Mexican Kaibiles) have completed some or all elements of the Guatemalan Kaibil training program.

- Laguna Seca, BCN. In 1994, Mexico's Secretary of National Defense established a new Kaibil training camp in Laguna Seca, Baja California Norte (10-12 hours southeast of Tijuana on east side of the state,)
- 14 Mexican soldiers died in the desert and 17 others were reportedly suffering from "health disorders." The camp was closed shortly thereafter. (NFI)

[*Diario de Yucatan* Newspaper. 01/02/99]



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- **Quintana Roo.** One of the main Mexican Kaibil training centers is/was located in the village of Xmotoc, in the heart of a forested region on the outskirts of the border with Belize.
- **Campeche.** Mexican training camp is located near Huayamon, Poblacion de Chulul. This camp is located forty kilometers from the capitol of this remote state. **[GAFES forces receive their training here.]**

*[Diario de Yucatan Newspaper. 01/02/99]*



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS *Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

- **Chiapas.** Tapachula, Chiapas- a military training base is operated by the *"Agujas Negras"* (*Black Needles*) a Special Ops Group.
  - Seven months of training similar to that of the Guatemalan Kaibiles are provided in anti-guerilla counterinsurgency
  - In each course a maximum of fifteen persons participate, all Mexican military officials. On concluding their training, graduates become instructors and return to their units.

[*Diario de Yucatan* Newspaper. 01/02/99]



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
*MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS-cont'd*

**HOW & WHERE DO DTOs OBTAIN MILITARY RECRUITS?**

**REPORTED MEXICO MILITARY ARMY/NAVAL DESERTIONS = 1200 per month**

- **In first 6 mos period 2006: 7,057 desertions**

*Punishment For Desertion*

- **Civil Offense punishable: 2 mos to 6 yrs**
- **Proposed increase: 30 - 60 years for narco collaborators**

**[SOURCE 2006: Office of Mexican Military Defense (SEDENA)]**



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
MILITARIZATION OF THE DTOS  
Los ZETAS & Los Kabiles-cont'd*

**MEXICO Between Jan 2000-Dec 2006: More than 163,000 military members were criminally processed during former president Vicente Fox's 6 years term of office.**

**The majority of the crimes were:**

**Abuse of power**

**Homicide**

**Embezzlement**

**Health crimes**

**Sexual abuse**

**Kidnapping**

**Conduct unbecoming of military members**

**Insubordination**

**False statements**

**Dereliction of duty**

**Misuse of authority**

**Bank robbery**

**Illegal possession of firearms**



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES LATE DEVELOPMENTS: ZETAS IN TIJUANA, BCN*

- June 2007. DEA Intelligence reported ZETA representatives in Tijuana and will commence kidnapping/killing of BCN/PME Police Officers aligned to Sinaloa Cartel.
- Under guise of assisting NWDTO, once in place they will ignore the NWDTO, take over the territory, and continue their battle against the Sinaloa Cartel.
- Then ... A Sinaloa-Gulf Alliance reported in late-June 2007



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
Mexico Cartel Relationships-cont'd



On Alleged Late -June 2007 New Gulf-Sinaloa Alliance

- Intelligence information on an alliance between **Gulf/Zeta Cartel and Sinaloa Cartel** may indicate:
- A new postponement of attacks against others?
- An attempt to consolidate efforts against other DTOs while each rebuilds their own forces?
- A Shared Alliance against the NW Mexico DTO?
- A Shared Alliance against the new Mexico President?
- Doubled Dealings by both DTOs against each other?
- An attempt to re-consolidate the Federation as Mediator of Disputes?
- ALL or NONE of the above.

By July 25, the cease fire had ended apparently based on two separate DTO killings in NL. [No confirmation of cease fire ending]



# PART III. SITUATIONAL ANALYSES

11/28/2007

- FOUO/LEA SENSITIVE -

80



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* **SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS**

- DTO techniques are likely to be emulated by other drug trafficking organizations seeking to create their own paramilitary-style enforcement groups for self defense purposes if nothing more...
- DTOs will further reach out to the Mexican military and foreign paramilitary and possible insurgent organizations in order to acquire much needed human and material support to fend off advances by competing Cartels.
- The result will be the emergence of a new type of drug trafficking organization in Mexico and the US precipitating a general militarization of the DTOs.



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
Mexico Cartel Relationships-cont'd  
**MEXICO GOVERNMENT PARTIAL RESPONSE**

## Create An Additional Elite Military Force

- **In May 2007**. President Calderon announced the creation of an elite military operations force
- Similar to former President Salina's GAFES, the new **Army/Air Force Federal Support Special Forces Corps** will report directly to the President and be responsible for restoring order and combating organized crime.



*DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES*  
Mexico Cartel Relationships-cont'd  
**MEXICO GOVERNMENT RESPONSE**

- The creation of the Corps is intended to side-step Mexico's corrupt police force while also providing a better trained and effective enforcement arm against narco-traffickers



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS-cont'd

- **06/27/2007. Media Article.**

### ***Mexico Purges Federal Police Chiefs***

*By Sam Enriquez, L. A. Times Staff Writer*

*The 32 officials will undergo polygraph and drug tests to determine whether they are on the right side of the law in the drug war.*

***MEXICO CITY*** - Mexico replaced the federal police chiefs from each of the country's 31 states and the Federal District on Monday, pending polygraph and drug tests to determine whether they are on the right side of the law in the nation's foundering drug war...

[The Los Angeles Times, June 26, 2007]

[ NOTE: July 2007. Several of the Federal Police Chiefs were found to be unqualified for their position based on previous disqualifications.]



## DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS-cont'd



- **What is the impact on SW Border law enforcement.**
  - Varying allegiances within Mexican police agencies will continue to fragment...
  - Resulting in continued violence and special enforcement efforts in Mexico by the government...
  - Resulting in continuing kidnappings / homicides internationally with increased spillover to the US...



## *DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES* SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS-cont'd

- Resulting in continuing residential relocations to the US border communities by Mexican officers, officials, and business owners for safety reasons...
- Resulting in increased violence potential to US first responders in the communities...
- Resulting in increased number of independent groups being formed that may intrude on established domestic gang territories creating increased gang violence or new alliances....



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS-cont'd

PREDICTION: Repeat of a 1984 Style CAMARENA EVENT

CURRENT LEVEL OF VIOLENCE/WARFARE IN MEXICO AND ALONG THE SW BORDER WILL CONTINUE ***BASED ON***

- ABSENCE OF CENTRALIZED DTO CONFEDERATION LEADERSHIP
- IN-FIGHTING BETWEEN DTO FAMILIES,
- INTERRUPTION OF DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS AND ACCESS POINTS
- DTO STRUCTURES AND CONCURRENT EXPANSION TO INCLUDE MAJOR DOMESTIC ENFORCERS
- INCREASED PRESENCE OF MILITARY IN MAJOR CITIES' THAT ARE DTO CENTERS/CORRIDORS



**DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES**  
**SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS-cont'd**  
**PREDICTION-Cont'd**



- **INFUSION OF MILITARY/PARAMILITARY ACTORS IN THE GAME AND POWER SURGES TO RECLAIM GEOGRAPHIC AREAS,**
- **CURRENT IMPACT OF REMOVAL OF FEDERAL/STATE COMANDANTES**
- **INFUSION OF MILITARY PERSONNEL IN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMAND POSITIONS.**

***EXPECT INCREASE IN TRANSFERRED AGGRESSION FROM MX DTOS TOWARD US AGENCY PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY AFTER INFUSION OF US MONIES TO MEXICO GOVERNMENT TO TRAIN, ARM, ENHANCE MX LEAS IN FIGHT AGAINST DTOS.***



DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
SITUATIONAL ANALYSES  
**US OFFICER SAFETY**

*US Law enforcement agencies' personnel can expect to encounter definite military tactics used by members of these DTO transnational criminal gangs.*

*You should remain alert to the high potential for violence before you.*



# DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES SOUTH WEST BORDER KIDNAPPINGS & NARCO-VIOLENCE



AN SD-LECC INTELLIGENCE PERSPECTIVE

QUESTIONS?



**DOMESTIC OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES  
SOUTH WEST BORDER  
KIDNAPPINGS & NARCO-VIOLENCE**

**AN SD-LECC INTELLIGENCE  
PERSPECTIVE**

**MR. LEE CHARLTON**

**Senior Intelligence Research Specialist**

**DEA-San Diego Intelligence Group I**

**858.616.4174**

**SD-LECC Team 7**

**AUGUST 27, 2007**

