

From: Brady, Juliette D (Mexico City)  
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Subject: NARCOTICS AFFAIRS SECTION MEXICO MONTHLY REPORT FOR JUNE 2010

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1. (SBU) THIS CABLE IS SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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ISSUES FOR WASHINGTON  
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2. (SBU) We look forward to the opportunity to meet with INL and staff in the upcoming program review and are convinced it will make a real difference in the future of the program. We will follow it up with a one day off site meeting to get ourselves better organized in a quickly growing NAS. We are still struggling with our ability to manage the sharp increase in procurement and may need some help with TDY support to get our rapidly growing section properly trained and mentored. NAS appreciates the recent attention focused on personnel issues and the very rapid turn-around in several high-profile positions.

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INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS  
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3. (SBU) TRENDS IN VIOLENCE: June left its mark as the most violent month to date in Mexico's drug war, with 1,068 deaths reported, bringing the total

**REVIEW AUTHORITY: Adolph Eisner, Senior Reviewer**

for 2010 to 5,478, just halfway through the year. If the pace continues, murders will easily top the total for all of 2009, 6,587, by the end of the summer. Of note, nearly 200 people were killed in a period of just six days during the first half of June, the worst wave of violence since Calderon took office in 2006. The violence started on June 10 with an attack on a drug rehabilitation center in Chihuahua that killed 19, and continued with daily shootings, including one in a Sinaloa prison that killed 29 prisoners. Separate attacks in two states left 15 federal police officers dead. The most affected states were Sonora, Nayarit, Michoacan, Guerrero, Chihuahua and Tamaulipas.

4. (SBU) CALDERON RESPONDS: Calderon responded to June's wave of violence with a two-page editorial published in newspapers across the country, as well as a national address via television on June 15, calling on citizens, and in particular local authorities, to rise up to the challenge of fighting organized crime. He stated that Mexico would be in a much worse state had his administration not taken on the criminal gangs. His message also reiterated frustration with demand for drugs in the U.S. and easy access to arms, and argued that the violence is largely caused by infighting between drug trafficking organizations. Calderon wrote that "the origin of our violence problem begins with the fact that Mexico is located next to the country that has the highest levels of drug consumption in the world."

5. (SBU) HEATED ELECTIONS: Mexico held general elections on July 4. Among the offices at stake were 12 governorships (of 31 states). As expected, preliminary results show the PRI won in the majority of the elections, however the PAN came out ahead in the key states of Puebla, Oaxaca, and Sinaloa. The PRI also won the mayoral election in Ciudad Juarez. In the run-up to the elections, on June 28, the PRI candidate for Governor in Tamaulipas, Rodolfo Torre Cantu, was assassinated in an attack that killed at least four other people, including a local legislator, Enrique Blackmore. Torre Cantu's name remained on the ballot and won the election. His brother, Egidio Torre Cantu, will assume the governorship in his stead. Torre Cantu's bodyguard was detained for his role in the assassination.

6. (SBU) CHIHUAHUA DEPUTY PROSECUTOR MURDERED: The Deputy Prosecutor of Internal Affairs for the State of Chihuahua, Sandra Ivonne Salas Garcia, was shot to death on June 30 in Ciudad Juarez. Salas oversaw the work of specialized investigative units in the northern areas of Chihuahua and was considered the right arm of the State's Attorney General, Patricia Gonzalez Rodriguez. Media reports of an SSP interview with one of the suspected shooters suggests someone she knew passed information about her location and activities to the criminal organization "La Linea."

7. (SBU) TOURIST ZONES HEAT UP: Last month's report of 20-25 bodies found in abandoned silver mine in the popular tourist town of Taxco was premature. As investigations continued in June, at least 64 bodies were found, most of which have yet to be identified. On June 15, a shootout erupted and left 15 people dead when Mexican troops went to search a suspected hide-out in Taxco. The victims were all alleged gunmen, and authorities believe they were tied to a drug suspect named Edgar Valdez Villarreal, "La Barbie." Valdez's group operates in Guerrero state, where Taxco is located. Violence

in other tourist towns included the discovery of 12 bodies in a sinkhole in Cancun with their hearts removed and some with the letter "Z" carved into their abdomens.

8. (SBU) SCHOOLS CLOSE EARLY: Warnings of attacks by drug gangs on schools, emitted via social networking sites on the Internet, led the Governor of the State of Nayarit to put students on summer vacation three weeks earlier than scheduled. In response, the Secretary of Government (SEGOB), Gomez Mont, confirmed that the federal government would send Mexican troops to Nayarit to maintain security.

9. (SBU) TRAFFIC BLOCKED AGAIN IN MONTERREY: Authorities detained Zetas leader, Hector Luna Luna (El Tori) in Monterrey. In response, armed men robbed public buses, cargo trucks, and private vehicles and created roadblocks at around 5:00 on June 9 in the cities of Monterrey, San Nicolas, Santa Catarina, Guadalupe and Escobedo. In total there were 28 different roadblocks that caused traffic problems for several hours.

10. (SBU) PROJECT DELIVERANCE: Coordinated raids across 16 states in the U.S. on June 9 led to the arrests of 429 people accused of participating in smuggling and transportation networks for Mexican drug cartels. Officials seized \$5.8 million in cash, 2,951 pounds of marijuana, 247 pounds of cocaine, and 17 pounds of methamphetamine. The raids were part of a larger, 22-month effort known as Project Deliverance.

11. (SBU) UNODC REPORT: In June the UNODC came out with their World Drug Report 2010. According to the report, Mexico accounts for 25% of all marijuana seizures globally, equivalent to more than 657 tons in 2008, and more than any other country. The report also shows that global cocaine and opium supplies are declining, while marijuana continues to be the most widely produced and sold illicit substance and methamphetamine use is growing.

12. (SBU) INICIATIVA MEXICO: A group of Mexico's top business, media, and academic leaders held a national event in June to raise awareness for Iniciativa Mexico (Mexico Initiative), a national campaign to improve quality of life in Mexico. The initiative requests individuals and organizations to present projects that make a positive impact in five broad categories: quality of life, community development, environment, justice and human rights, and good government. The best projects will be selected for funding, as well as training and professionalization courses for employees.

13. (SBU): MEXICO EMOTIONS HIGH AFTER BORDER SHOOTINGS: Two recent deaths of Mexican citizens along the U.S.-Mexico border involving the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) incited anger among Mexican citizens towards the U.S. The first occurred near the San Ysidro crossing between Tijuana and San Diego, and the second happened near Ciudad Juarez-El Paso.

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MERIDA INITIATIVE  
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14. (SBU) CIUDAD JUAREZ-EL PASO CAMPAIGN PLANNING SESSION II: SSP hosted 60 USG and GOM officials, as well as SMEs, in Ciudad Juarez June 21-25 to review progress in implementing recommendations from the earlier campaign planning session and developing specific programs to advance our joint work in the areas of intelligence, public security, IT and judicial operations. The week culminated with an executive-level meeting attended by Ambassador Pascual and Secretary of Public Security Genaro Garcia Luna, CISEN Director Valdes, Deputy Attorney General Lara, and SRE Under-Secretary for North American Affairs Ventura. The session yielded a number of concrete implementable proposals for capacity building, equipment and mentoring that we will start on soon.

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INTERDICTION  
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15. (SBU) Major drug seizures during the period:

- 06/02 - Culiacan, Sinaloa (in various locations): 89.9 kilograms of marijuana, 251 tablets of psychotropic drugs, 80.1 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine, an additional 13 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine and the following precursor chemicals: 45 bags of Phenyl acid weighing 933 kilograms, seven plastic containers containing 320 liters of hydroxide soda, and five bags containing 120 kilograms of caustic soda.
- 06/09 - Monterrey, Nuevo Leon: 40 kilograms of marijuana.
- 06/09 - Cruillas, Tamaulipas: 17.5 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine.
- 06/13 - Los Aldamas, Nuevo Leon: 6 tons of marijuana.
- 06/17 - Mexico City, Mexico: 20 kilograms of cocaine.
- 06/22 - Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon: 1 ton of marijuana.

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POLICE PROFESSIONALIZATION & TRAINING  
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16. (SBU) FEDERAL INVESTIGATIVE UNIT (AFI): Mexico's Federal Investigative Unit (AFI) is undergoing restructuring following its split from the SSP, and has created ten units of 70 to 100 agents each to operate more efficiently. The agents assigned to these sections all have a minimum of 2 years of experience. NAS is exploring various mechanisms to work with AFI.

17. (SBU) FEDERAL POLICE (SSP): In June, NAS launched the first of several tactical courses for SSP's Grupo de Operaciones Especiales (GOPES), which is similar to SWAT teams in the U.S. Training included Combat Lifesaver, First Aid, and Advanced Small Arms Training. NAS also supported six individuals - three from SSP and three from PGR - to participate in crime scene management training at the International Law Enforcement Academy in San Salvador. Ongoing training in June included Drug and Criminal Investigation, Sexual Assault Management, and Basic Drug Identification.

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CORRECTIONS SYSTEMS REFORM  
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18. (SBU) Classification Advisor, Mark Broaddus, arrived in Mexico City in June to work with the SSP in the formation and implementation of their objective classification system. The SSP started a pilot program at Islas Marias where 1,998 male inmates were classified at initial intake.

19. (SBU) The 2nd Latin American Seminar of the International Corrections and Prisoners Association was held June 8-11. It appears that the Under Secretary for the Mexican Penitentiary System will be the organization's next President.

20. (SBU) The first Correctional Prisoner Transportation Course was conducted by the Colorado Department of Corrections from June 21 to July 2. This course involved training for managing high risk and routine transportation offenders. NAS will continue with this program based on SSP's needs. Staff who took the course were certified as instructors of transportation training. Curriculum for the "Developing Correctional Leaders for Mexico" was also finalized in June. NAS is developing an IAA with the Federal Bureau of Prisons/ National Institute of Corrections to conduct this training. The first course is scheduled for July 12-23 at the Federal Prisons Complex in Beaumont, Texas.

21. (SBU) SSP provided a signed letter requesting assistance to purchase biometric identification equipment for offenders currently incarcerated. This coincides with one of the core strategies identified by the GOM.

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NON-INTRUSIVE INSPECTION EQUIPMENT  
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22. (SBU) SSP: Eleven mobile X-Ray Inspection vans were ordered for SSP and SAT with scheduled delivery to begin in September. A modification to the LOA, to allow solé-sourcing of equipment for the Mexican government, was sent to SRE for their approval. Once the modification of the LOA is in place, it will expedite procurement of Non-Intrusive Inspection Equipment (NIIE) for the government of Mexico. Additionally, June 8 - 18 NAS vendor Astrophysics provided basic operational training to 60 technicians from the SSP on proper use of X-ray Minivans provided under Merida. The two-week training included classroom and hands-on training.

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INTERNAL CONTROLS - CONTROL DE CONFIANZA  
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23. (SBU) The term "Control de Confianza" lacks a universal understanding among Mexican government agencies, and has led to some confusion regarding the over-reaching strategy and elements of the program. Therefore, NAS decided to refocus its anti-corruption program and rename it "Developing

Trustworthy Institutions." The program still includes trustworthiness controls (polygraph and background investigations), internal controls (to stand up an internal affairs unit), and the police registry program, as well as an additional focus on developing positive reinforcement methods and an institutional culture of lawfulness.

24. (SBU) The proposed IAA with CBP to provide polygraph, background investigation and other Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to support the Developing Trustworthy Institutions Project is currently on hold. NAS will be looking at contracting SMEs to move the project forward. In June a CBP/DACA instructor provided advanced polygraph instruction to 42 PGR examiners and consulted with the director of the polygraph unit regarding the possibility of creating a specialized unit to conduct criminal-specific examinations.

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IT PROGRAMS  
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25. (SBU) Short Messaging System/Citizen Tip-Line: This project seeks to restore citizen confidence in law enforcement and the Mexican government by using technology to facilitate public participation in citizen safety. The short-term goal is to provide Mexican citizens with an anonymous, secure, and transparent means to share information via SMS text, voice and web-based submissions with the authorities. Central to the project's success will be the involvement of civil society to publicize GOM successes using information provided by the tip-line. In June two program coordinators with responsibility for the project arrived at post. NAS expects to launch a pilot of the tip-line in Ciudad Juarez this fall.

26. (SBU) INACIPE (PGR) - National Institute for the Study of Criminal Science: The first project of a two phased institutional upgrade was delivered on June 4. Deliverables included ISP bandwidth expansion, video streaming services, and new firewalls. The contract for the second project phase was awarded on June 16, and the "kick off" took place on June 18. This portion of the virtual classroom project will enable INACIPE to expand student courses and distribution in order to meet their increasing overall training goals.

27. (SBU) CENAPI/PGR (National Center for Information, Analysis and Planning in order to Fight Crime): Phase one of this complex project to revitalize CENAPI's data center was initiated on June 7 and will be delivered in July.

28. (SBU) NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER (CISEN) Intelligence Strengthening Project: A project requirements analysis report was delivered to NAS, which details CISEN's intelligence gathering requirements and the technology needed to support their plan to equip 10 interview sites across Mexico via a secure network. Project delivery and implementation will begin the first week of August with final delivery expected in December 2010.

29. (SBU) NATIONAL IMMIGRATION INSTITUTE (INAMI) SIOM/Biometric project: Workshops with the GOM to identify technical and procedural capabilities for

the implementation of a broad deployment of biometric enrollment and verification stations across Mexico have been finalized. Equipment delivery and installation at 28 sites across Mexico is expected to begin the last week of August with an expected project closeout of September 2011.

30. (SBU) PUBLIC SECURITY SECRETARIAT (SSP)/ National Command and Control Center (The Bunker): A \$3.5 million contract for a high level and detailed design system to empower the SSP with standardized core competencies in incident management processes, protocols, and operational capabilities to plan for, respond to, and recover from large scale regional disasters, whether natural or man-made, was delivered on June 30.

31. (SBU) CONADIC (Secretariat's National Council to Combat Addiction) / RENADIC (National Network for the Transfer of Technology to Combat Addictions): In June, procurement in Mexico City issued a Task Order to Root Technologies for Phase 1 of the RENADIC Project, which will create the requirements for connecting up to 400 "New Life Centers" (Centros de Nueva Vida) around Mexico and to ensure that the custom application AXON, developed by CONADIC, will perform satisfactorily on top of the infrastructure.

32. (SBU) Financial Investigation Unit (UIF) Money Laundering Project: Phase 1 is underway and I2 licenses have been delivered to several GOM entities. I2 training is also taking place, and NAS delivered the first ACAMS certification class (a second class is scheduled for July 29). Digital forensic and conventional PC equipment will be delivered during the month of July. During phase 1, the contractor also completed validation of data center equipment for the UIF. An RFP was sent out to three vendors with quotes due to NAS on July 9.

33. (SBU) Secretary of Communications and Transportation (SCT): In March, the contractor provided details of the specific satellite communication terminals that GOM identified for purchase under Merida. This initial Bill of Materials was for an amount larger than budgeted; therefore NAS requested that SCT and Telecomm scale back the list of equipment, and NAS has now received a new BOM eliminating all the radio equipment, which was not part of the L Band contingency plan. RPSO will be asking the contractor for a purchase order to proceed with acquisition.

34. (SBU) Secretary of Communications and Transportation. CORREOS PROJECT (POST OFFICE): Correos submitted a set of requirements and NAS has contacted the USPS, as outlined in the LOA, requesting they conduct an evaluation in Mexico of their requirements. USPS inspectors were scheduled to come to Mexico in June but they had to postpone. NAS is waiting to obtain a new date from the USPS.

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LEGAL REFORM TRAINING  
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35. (SBU) DOJ/OPDAT: Forensics Advisor, Carl Risheim, arrived at post on June 13 to focus on developing the forensic capabilities of the SSP and PGR

laboratories, including ISO-17025 certification. Also in June, ICITAP made significant advancements with both PGR and SSP laboratories in the area of Crime Scene Response. ICITAP is working with both organizations to standardize evidence collection procedures by utilizing standardized training at the federal level. ICITAP SMEs assessed the PGR lab's crime scene processing capabilities, and found they have good technical skills. The PGR lab has requested that all its crime scene personnel pass through the ICITAP course to ensure standardization throughout the organization. Conversations with SSP suggest their personnel have very basic training in crime scene processing, and they possess no practical experience to date. Both have tentatively agreed to adopt ICITAP proposed training.

36. (SBU) DOJ/OPDAT hosted a money laundering course for representatives from PGR, SSP, CENAPI, UIF and others. The course received a positive response, and PGR has requested several more iterations of the training. Also in June, DOJ/OPDAT hosted a day-long workshop on code reform in Mexico City for members of a commission working on the federal legal code reform. Participants from SEGOB, SSP, SECTEC and Legal Counsel to the Federal Executive Branch attended, and requested DOJ participate in an advisory capacity during the code writing and implementation process. Ongoing courses were held on Chain of Custody and Trial Advocacy, and a contingent of PGR prosecutors and SSP investigators traveled to Colombia for Interviewing and Interrogation training.

37. (SBU) INACIPE: Merida is sponsoring a yearlong training program with the National Institute of Criminal Sciences (INACIPE). Now at the halfway point for 2010, INACIPE has conducted 107 training courses in which 8312 public servants have participated. The courses are as follows:

--Introduction to Oral Advocacy Skills: 12 of 32 scheduled are completed; 1,188 people have the 25-hour course (231 members of the Attorney General's Office, 613 members of State Attorney Offices, 328 officials from state judiciaries and 16 people from other institutions).

--The Role of the Prosecution in the Adversarial Criminal System: 12 of 32 scheduled courses are completed; 1,134 participants have taken the 20 hour course (350 officials from the Attorney General's Office, 386 members of State Attorney Offices, 371 state judiciary staff members , 27 from other agencies)

--The Legal Framework of Drug Trafficking and Prevention: 15 of 32 scheduled courses are completed; 1,453 people have attended the 15-hour courses (368 members of the Attorney General's Office, 546 members of State Attorney Offices, 499 officials from the state judiciaries, and 40 members of other institutions).

--New Legal Tools against Organized Crime: 14 of 32 scheduled courses are completed; 1,301 people have taken the 15-hour course (312 members of the Attorney General's Office, 620 members of State Attorney Offices, 334 officials from state judiciaries and 35 people from other institutions).

--Impacting the Financial Structures of Organized Crime: 3 of 34 scheduled



courses are completed; 110 people from the General Attorney's Office have taken this 30-hour course.

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CULTURE OF LAWFULNESS  
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38. (SBU) 40 police officers attended two five-day courses in Nuevo Leon and Coahuila, with six Mexican trainers accredited by NAS partners NSIC (National Strategy Information Center) leading the course.

39. (SBU) Based on the results of a pilot program, the Mexico City Secretary of Education decided to institutionalize the 120-hour Culture of Lawfulness curriculum, increasing the number of participating teachers from 10 to approximately 600 for the 2010-2011 school year. In addition, 11 states received approval from the Federal Secretary of Education (SEP) to offer Culture of Lawfulness courses, and an additional 11 states are revising their course proposals based on comments from the SEP.

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CANINE  
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40. (SBU) SAT (Customs): On June 1, 12 SAT canine handlers started the second of three 5-week Canine Certification Courses. Each handler will be certified on the detection of Drugs, Currency, and Weapons. The course will conclude on July 3, 2010 and a ceremony will take place at the El Paso Canine Center in El Paso, Texas. Also on June 1, SAT canine handlers started the third in a series of courses to become certified as instructors. On June 30, after six months stuck at the U.S.-Mexico border, approximately 45 kilos of pseudo aromas (cocaine, heroin and marijuana) and 120 transport kennels were delivered to SSP, SAT, and PGR canine units. The total donation is worth \$25,000.

41. (SBU) SAT ACADEMY: Four Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Officers arrived in Mexico City to participate in the Second SAT Academy training June 20 - July 3. The officers are from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Glynco, GA and via an IAA between CBP and NAS trained SAT instructors on four different courses that concluded in May. The CBP officers will act as observers for two weeks at the SAT Academy while the SAT Instructors teach the courses taught to them in FLETC.

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MANAGEMENT  
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42. (SBU) A group of eight NAS employees are training to be grants monitors through FSI distance-learning courses. This cadre of grants specialists will be able to assist NAS Mexico in preparing, implementing and monitoring grants, expanding options for Merida implementation.

**Signature:** PASCUAL

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