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TITLE: SUBJECT: GFTA-90-8001/NORTHERN BORDER RESPONSE FORCE,

(b)(7)(C) (SEP 549) 16 MARCH 1993 BILATERAL STEERING

COMMITTEE MEETING.

ORIGDATE: 199303192150

SOURCE: STATE

DOCNO: MEXICO 06285

TEXT:

TAGS: SNAR/HEX

COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: GFTA-90-8001/NORTHERN BORDER RESPONSE FORCE,

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COMMITTEE MEETING.

1. ON 16 MARCH 1993, A MEETING OF THE BILATERAL COMMITTEE BETWEEN U.S. EMBASSY NBRF AND PGR CENDRO/HALCON OFFICIALS HAS HELD AT CENDRO (CENTER OF PLANNING FOR THE CONTROL OF DRUGS) IN MEXICO CITY. AMONG THE DISCUSSION TOPICS ON THE COMMITTEE'S AGENDA FOR THAT DATE WERE THE FOLLOWING:

- DECLINE OF SUSPECT AIR TARGETS
- IMPLEMENTATION OF UH-1H HELICOPTERS INTO THE NBRF - PROGRAM

2. ING. (b)(7)(C) DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CENDRO, STATED THAT NO SUSPECT AIR TARGETS HAD BEEN DETECTED BY ANY OF THE INTERDICTION ASSETS COMING INTO MEXICAN AIRSPACE FROM SOUTH AMERICA WITHIN THE LAST MONTH. ING. (b)(7) ALSO STATED THAT THE MEXICAN STEERING COMMITTEE BELIEVED THAT THE DECLINE OF THE SUSPECT AIR TARGETS COMING INTO MEXICO HAS MAINLY DUE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- A. DRASTIC ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT AGAINST THE CARTELS.
- B. GREAT SUCCESS OF NBRF/OPERACION HALCON IN

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MEXICO.

- C. WITH THE ABOVE ACTIONS TAKEN AGAINST THE CARTELS, (b)(7)(C) BELIEVES THAT THE NARCOTRAFFICKERS HAVE RESORTED TO UTILIZING MARITIME ROUTES. NBRF MANAGER (b)(7)(C) ADVISED ING. (b)(7) THAT THE NBRF STEERING COMMITTEE AGREED WITH THE ABOVE AND ADDED THAT ALSO CONTRIBUTING TO THE CARTELS PROBLEMS WERE THE COLOMBIAN VIGILANTE GROUPS WITH PERSONAL VANDETTAS AGAINST THE CARTELS, SPECIFICALLY THE PABLO ESCOBAR ORGANIZATION. ACA (b)(7) ALSO ADDED THAT THE SUCCESS OF NBRF/OPERACION HALCON HAS DENYING THE CARTELS AIR ROUTES INTO MEXICO AND CAUSING THEM TO USE THE CENTRAL AMERICAN LAND ROUTES AND MARITIME AVENUES. ACA (b)(7) ADVISED THE NBRF PROGRAM HAS ACHIEVING ITS ORIGINALLY ENVISIONED CONCEPT IN PRECLUDING THE COLOMBIAN ORGANIZATIONS FROM USING MEXICO AS A TRANSHIPMENT POINT FOR COCAINE SHIPMENTS ENROUTE TO THE UNITED STATES. ING. (b)(7) ALSO ADVISED THAT A COORDINATED EFFORT BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE MEXICAN STEERING COMMITTEE HAS BEING MADE TO ADDRESS THE MARITIME AND LAND ROUTES BEING UTILIZED BY THE COCAINE CARTELS INTO MEXICO.

3. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UH-LH HELICOPTERS INTO THE NBRF/HALCON PROGRAM IN MEXICO HAS ALSO DISCUSSED. THE NAS REPRESENTATIVE ADVISED THE BILATERAL COMMITTEE THAT THEY HAD FORMALLY PRESENTED TO THE PGR A PROPOSAL FOR UGRADING THE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN THE UH-LH'S WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE SAFETY AND THE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE GROUND INTERDICTION ELEMENTS AND INTERDICTION AIRCRAFT DURING OPERATIONS. THE NBRF MANAGER ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT SHOULD BE AGREED UPON BY EVERYONE AT THE BILATERAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING THAT THE PODS SHOULD BE EQUIPPED WITH THREE (3) UH-LH'S INSTEAD OF TWO (2) AS RECOMMENDED TO CENDRO IN ORDER TO ENHANCE SECURITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF NBRF/HALCON OPERATIONS IN MEXICO. THIS RECOMMENDATION HAS AGREED TO BY ING. (b)(7) IT HAS ALSO AGREED THAT THE HF/MANPACK RADIOS WOULD BE

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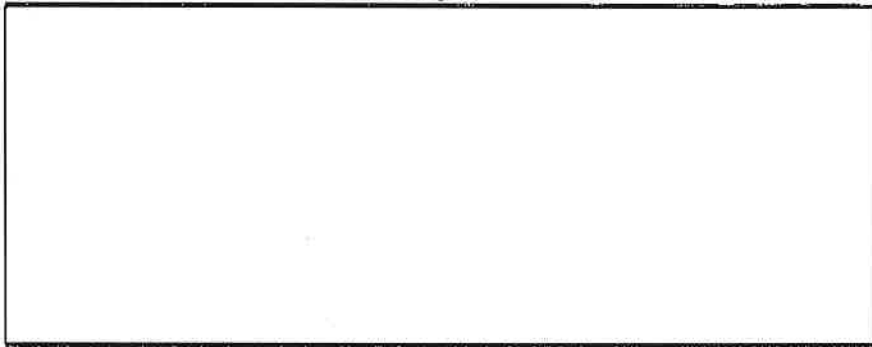
INCORPORATED INTO THE INTERDICTION TEAMS AS SOON AS THE PROPER ANTENNAS WERE RECEIVED BY THE NAS REPRESENTATIVE IN MEXICO CITY. ING. (b)(7) ALSO AGREED TO ACCEPT THE TIME CONCEPT DOCUMENT (DEADLINES TO ACHIEVE UH-LH IMPLEMENTATION) WHICH HAS SUBMITTED BY THE NBRF STEERING COMMITTEE PENDING THE APPROVAL AND ACCEPTANCE BY THE PGR.

4. ING. (b)(7) ALSO STATED THAT AS OF 01 MAY 1993, ALL INTERACTION CONCERNING NBRF /OPERACION HALCON MATTERS WOULD BE COORDINATED STRICTLY BETWEEN THE IAC AND PGR/MF/P PERSONNEL AT THE OPERATIONS CENTER AT CENDRO.

5. THE MEETING HAS ADJOURNED AFTER IT HAS AGREED THAT THE NEXT MEETING WOULD BE ON MARCH 23, 1993 TO FINALIZE THE TIME CONCEPT DOCUMENT.

6. ANY INQUIRIES REGARDING THIS CABLE SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MCCO ACA (b)(7)(C), (b)(7)(F) L OR NBRF COORDINATOR S/A (b)(7)(C), (b)(7)(F) AT (b)(7)(C)

END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL



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 CHEYENNE ATTN: DEFT LIAISON OFFICER; HQS NORAD (b)(7)(C) AFB ATTN: DEA LIAISON OFFICER;
 DODSPEONE FOR 2K2K - RR - AII - NHH - DE; CUSTOMS ATTN: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR
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 DOCST: ACTIVE
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 RUETIAA/DODSPEONE WASHDC//DCN//GFPS
 RUEABNE/EPIC EL PASO TX
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RUEHYM/AMCONSUL MONTERREY 9640
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RUEHHM/AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO 1744
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