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From: (k) [REDACTED] (C)
 Sent: 3/25/2010 5:03:07 PM
 To: [REDACTED]

NO RECOMMENDATION

Subject: HIR/ICE-0217-10 CONTINUING VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN MEXICO BETWEEN Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas,
 Possible Gang Threat Against U.S. Law Enforcement in El Paso, Texas [REDACTED] (U) UNCLAS
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 SBU Law Enforcement

MRN: 10 DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC 3252947
 Date/DTG: Mar 25, 2010 / 252051Z MAR 10
 From: DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHINGTON DC
 Action: ANCHORY FT GEORGE G MEADE MD IMMEDIATE ;
 BUREAU OF ALCOHOL TOBACCO FIREARMS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ;
 COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ;
 COGARD MIFC LANT DAM NECK VA IMMEDIATE ; DA AMHS WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ;
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 US SECRET SERVICE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE ; USCBP WASHINGTON DC
 IMMEDIATE ; SAFE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
 Captions: SENSITIVE
 Sensitivity: SBU Law Enforcement
 Subject: HIR/ICE-0217-10 CONTINUING VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN MEXICO BETWEEN Gulf
 Cartel and Los Zetas; Possible Gang Threat Against U.S. Law Enforcement in El Paso,
 Texas [REDACTED] (U) UNCLAS
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SUBJ: HIR/ICE-0217-10 CONTINUING VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN MEXICO BETWEEN
 Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas; Possible Gang Threat Against U.S. Law
 Enforcement in El Paso, Texas (CARRILLO/BELTRAN) (U)
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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

COUNTRY OR NON STATE ENTITY: ~~(U//FOUO)~~ Mexico, United States

SUBJECT HIR/ICE -0217-10 Continuing Violence in Northern Mexico
Between Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas; Possible Gang Threat Against U.S.
Law Enforcement in El Paso, Texas [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFORMATION: (U) 23 March 2010.

SUMMARY. (U//LES) The security situation in northern Mexico continues to be tenuous, as warring Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO) continue to fight for lucrative smuggling corridors, and Mexican military and law enforcement entities struggle to maintain order. The [REDACTED] (BA) gang may be considering retaliatory strikes against law enforcement in El Paso, Texas in response to a

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law enforcement operation targeting the BA.

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OTHER LEGAL OR JUDICIAL PURPOSES.

TEXT:

1. (U//FOUO) (CONTEXT STATEMENT) Since 23 February 2010, ICE Office of Intelligence (INTEL) officials have been receiving information [REDACTED] about the ongoing violence occurring between the previously allied Gulf Cartel and Los Zetas. The violence began in Ciudad Reynosa [REDACTED] Tamaulipas, spread throughout the State of Tamaulipas, and has extended to the State of Nuevo Laredo [REDACTED] reports indicate [REDACTED] DTO and the Sinaloa Cartel are actively supporting the Gulf Cartel, while the [REDACTED] (VCF) and [REDACTED] DTOs are probably aligning with Los Zetas [REDACTED] the Gulf Cartel has inflicted heavy [REDACTED]

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damage on Los Zetas, but a retaliatory strike by Los Zetas is likely inevitable. The battles continue and the security situation in northern Mexico remains volatile. All Mexican locations in this report are in Tamaulipas, Mexico unless otherwise noted. For previous ICE reporting on this situation, please reference the

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following: HIR/ICE -0116-10; HIR/ICE -0129-10; HIR/ICE -0135-10; HIR/ICE -0136-10; HIR/ICE -0145-10; HIR/ICE -0146-10; HIR/ICE -0147-10; HIR/ICE -0148-10; HIR/ICE -0157-10; HIR/ICE -0158-10; HIR/ICE -0159-10; HIR/ICE -0170-10; HIR/ICE -0171-10; HIR/ICE -0172-10; HIR/ICE -0173-10; HIR/ICE -0174-10; HIR/ICE -0175-10; HIR/ICE -0187-10; HIR/ICE -0188-10; HIR/ICE -0189-10; HIR/ICE -0196-10; HIR/ICE -0203-10; HIR/ICE -0204-10; HIR/ICE -0214-10.)

2. (U//LES) On 18 March 2010, at 0600L, a multi-agency task force consisting of Federal, State, and Local LEOs launched OPERATION KNOCK DOWN (OKD). OKD was an major operation targeting nearly 200 BA gang members in El Paso [REDACTED] Texas. Arrest teams executed arrest warrants on known BA gang members wanted on various charges, while interview teams interviewed BA members and their associates who were consequently encountered. OKD operations concluded on 21 March 2010. As a result of OKD, 54 BA members and associates were arrested while 363 were interviewed.

3. (U//LES) Subsequent to OKD operations, on 21 March 2010, ICE officials received uncorroborated information [REDACTED] e

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the BA gang in El Paso was considering undisclosed retaliatory actions against LEOs in response to the gang -sweep conducted from Thursday, 18 March 2010 to Sunday, 21 March 2010. [REDACTED] the BA gang may issue a quote green light end quote authorizing the attempted murder of LEOs in the El Paso area.

3. (U//LES) On 22 March 2010 at 1800L, ICE officials in Laredo, Texas received information regarding a gun battle in Nuevo Laredo [REDACTED] Tamaulipas. The fight was possibly between the Halcones, described as being the lookouts for Los Zetas, and the Mexican military. The gun battles erupted about an hour earlier, at approximately 1700L.

4. (U//LES) Later, at 1822L, additional information was received re-stating that shots were fired amongst unidentified cartel members. In addition, Mexican military engaged the unknown cartels and was able to apprehend one member. Mexican military officials were in pursuit of two other cartel members. During the military engagement, one vehicle was seized and described as a red Toyota Tundra which had been set on fire.

SUBJ: HIR/ICE -0217-10 CONTINUING VIOLENCE IN NORTHERN MEXICO BETWEEN

5. (U//LES) On 22 March 2010, ICE INTEL officials received information concerning Mexico(s) [REDACTED] who had arrived in Reynosa and held a closed door meeting with Government of Mexico (GoM) Federal and State officials. It is currently unknown what was discussed during this

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meeting. Apparently no press was allowed.

6. (U//LES) On 22 March 2010, ICE officials learned of an ongoing gun battle taking place in Ciudad Victoria Tamaulipas (b)(7)(D) involved approximately 60 vehicles. The vehicles were staged in the areas of Santander Jimenez, Uera de Canales, Abasolo, Nueva Villa de Padilla, and other municipalities near Ciudad Victoria

7. (U//LES) On 22 March 2010 at 2100L, Zapata County Police Department (ZCSPD) officials, along with ICE officials in Laredo received uncorroborated information of unknown reliability (b)(7)(D) That day, Los Zetas members allegedly burned down eight buildings. The buildings were described as a funeral home, personal residences/homes, and houses of acquaintances of a former Zeta who switched allegiance to the Gulf Cartel.

8. (U//LES) The former Zeta is identified as (b)(7)(F) (b)(7)(F)

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Tamaulipas. Los Zetas in Guerrero (C)

10. (U//LES) Furthermore, local police and a supposed state officer sent by the President of Mexico are going around Guerrero and telling

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any families left in the area to remain in their homes. LEOs were informing families that, for their own safety they should remain inside and not leave the house for any reason.

11. (U//LES) On 22 March 2010, ZCSD officials received information (k) that effective around 1800L on Monday 22 March 2010, GoM officials were supposedly closing streets in anticipation of a battle amongst cartels. The confrontation was to take place on either Tuesday, 23 March 2010 or Wednesday, 24 March 2010. (k) the confrontation is to occur on Tuesday, 23 March 2010 and civilians will be quote fair game end quote. (FIELD COMMENT: (b)(7)(D)

REQUIREMENTS: (U) (b)(7)(D)

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HSEC-04-04000-ST-2009; HSEC-05-02000-ST-2009; HSEC-05-03000-ST-2009;
HSEC-05-12000-ST-2009; HSEC-05-18000-ST-2009; HSEC-05-19000-ST-2009;
HSEC-16-01000-ST-2009; HSEC-16-02000-ST-2009; HSEC-16-03000-ST-2009;
HSEC-16-04000-ST-2009; HSEC-16-06000-ST-2009; HSEC-17-01001-ST-2009;

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HSEC-18-01000-ST-2009; C-AL8-1100-053-09; C-AL8-1510-045-09;
D-IAC-1513-081-08; D-IAC-2510-083-09; D-IAC-2510-217-06;
D-IAC-2510-241-05; D-IAC-2540-0267-09; D-INT-2320-0002-09;
G-AIF-1541-543-08; U-NCA-1514-009-08; M-CMC-2232-001-09;
U-UCR-2320-007-08; U-USU-1137-001-08; U-XCA-2300-011-08;
ICE-03000-08; ICE-05000-08; ICE-10000-08; ICE-11000-08

MGT CODE: (U) 504500.

INSTR: (U) U.S. NO.

PREP: (U) DHS-0121.

DATE OF ACQUISITION: (U) 24 March 2010 at 500904.

POC. 1 (U) Customer evaluations, input and feedback are highly
encouraged and welcomed. Please direct any evaluations via

[REDACTED]

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