



Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Border Patrol Special Coordination Center

2003 WRAP UP

MEXICAN GOVERNMENT INCIDENTS



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Purpose: The purpose of this document is to provide an intelligence overview concerning Mexican Government incursions, encounters and sightings on the U.S. and Mexico borders.

Sources Used: Information contained in this report is derived from Border Patrol reports of Mexican Military and Police activity on the US/Mexico border.

Time Period: This document provides the most recent, corrected and amended information/intelligence available.

WARNING

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INTELLIGENCE UPDATE: Mexican Government Incursions, Encounters and Sightings on the Southwestern Border (SWB).

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AS OF: September 30, 2003

From 1996 to present, the U.S.B.P. Special Coordination Center has confirmed *one hundred eighty five* incursions into the United States by Mexican government personnel.

INCURSIONS

- In FY 2003, as of September 30, 2003 the U.S.B.P. Special Coordination Center (SCC) confirmed *twenty-three* incursions.
 - *Fourteen* were by Mexican Military personnel.
 - *Nine* were by Mexican law enforcement personnel

ENCOUNTERS*

- *Four* to report as of September 30, 2003

SIGHTINGS*

- *Eleven* to report as of September 30, 2003

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MEXICAN GOVERNMENT BORDER INCIDENTS - METHODOLOGY

An incident will be classified as an Incursion, an Encounter or a Sighting. The following methodology is used in classifying each incident.

INCURSION

INCURSIONS - An Incursion is defined as the unauthorized crossing of the U.S. - Mexico border by Mexican Government Personnel. It may be either intentional or unintentional.

- Armed Incursion: Mexican Government Personnel are carrying weapons.
- Unarmed Incursion: Mexican Government Personnel are not carrying weapons.

ENCOUNTER

ENCOUNTERS - An Encounter is any activity by Mexican Government Personnel on the Mexican side of the U.S.- Mexico Border that results in interaction between the parties involved.

- Threatening Encounter: Shots are fired, a weapon is pointed or objects are thrown across the U.S.- Mexico Border at LEA's, U.S. Military personnel or civilians.
- Non-Threatening Encounter: Mexican Government Personnel establish communications with LEA's or U.S. Military personnel on their respective sides of the Border

SIGHTINGS

SIGHTINGS - A Sighting is the discovery of significant Mexican Government activity, which is not an encounter, on the Mexican side of the U.S.- Mexico.

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SECTION ONE – INCURSIONS

An Incursion is defined as the unauthorized crossing of the U.S. – Mexico Border by Mexican Government Personnel. It may be either intentional or unintentional.

1. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) - EL CENTRO / CALEXICO - On 10 October, 2002 at approximately 1130 hours, a Mexican Police Officer wearing plain clothes and identifying himself as a member of the Homicide Unit made an incursion approximately seven miles east of the Calexico Port of Entry. The Mexican Police Officer came to U.S. territory for approximately five minutes to speak to a U.S. Border Patrol Agent in regards to the six illegal aliens that he had just apprehended. The police officer presumed that the subject he was looking for was one of them. He returned to Mexico without any further incident. [REDACTED]

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2. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) – YUMA / YUMA - On 13 October 2002 at approximately 1115 hours, two agents working in the Yuma area of Andrade, California encountered two uniformed Mexican Police officials on a All Terrain Vehicle (ATV). This was approximately 1/10 mile west of International Boundary [REDACTED]. The two Mexican officials were wearing a patch on the uniforms that said "Policía Transito." The individuals stated they were from Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico and were supposed to be providing security for a race that was taking place in Mexico. The Agents told the individuals that they were in the United States and directed them to return to the Mexican side of the International Boundary. The two Mexican officials complied. The Agents further noted that there were two sedans visible. One appeared to be marked Mexican PD and the other was unmarked, but both had at least two occupants visible. No further incident occurred. [REDACTED]

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3. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) – YUMA / YUMA - On October 22, 2002 at approximately 1045 hours an agent while on routine patrol was advised via radio that a sensor in the area of [REDACTED] had been activated. When he arrived he encountered a military type of HUMVEE with several subjects dressed in drab green uniforms, which appeared to be military. When advised by the agent that they were on U.S. soil they were cordial and stated they were lost at which time the agent advised them to return to Mexico. They left his position and proceeded east toward Algodones south of the All American Canal on the Mexican side of the boundary line. There were no further incidents [REDACTED]

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4. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) – LAREDO / LAREDO NORTH - On November 5, 2002 at approximately 1130 hours, a citizen reported seeing a Military type helicopter, possibly a Huey type, cross from the Mexican side of the border into United States airspace. The citizen described the personnel wearing Military jumpsuits and helmets and armed with what appeared to be M-60 caliber machine guns. The aircraft crossed over at about the 8-mile mark on Mines Road [REDACTED] and then traveled up river to an area [REDACTED]. The aircraft then backtracked and crossed back to Mexico. The aircraft was also identified as having no markings and was gray/green in color. Two pilots and three or four other

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personnel were seen in the aircraft. The citizen also stated that he had seen the same type of aircraft about two weeks previously and the incursions occurred everyday for about two weeks. During the incident, the citizen mentioned that he was with a USDA Officer at the time. [REDACTED]

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5. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - YUMA / YUMA - On November 7, 2002 at approximately 0217 hours agents responded to sensor activity near the International Boundary. Upon arrival the agents located a 1992 Ford Explorer stuck approximately four feet north of the international boundary. Across from the vehicle in Mexico there were several Mexican soldiers and military vehicles. The location of the incident is [REDACTED] 10 miles from San Luis, AZ. The agents made verbal contact with a captain of the Mexican military. While conversing with the Captain the agents observed six or seven bundles consistent with narcotic contraband in the rear of a military vehicle. The two subjects that had been in the Ford Explorer fled north on foot and eventually returned to Mexico. It appears the Explorer had circumvented a checkpoint by entering the U.S., and driving west along the border. Once intercepted by the Mexican military the vehicle became stuck and the subjects fled on foot. Agents report seeing several sets of footprints (jungle boots) back and forth from the vehicle to Mexico, indicating the Mexican soldiers had entered the U.S. to retrieve the contraband. The Mexican military stated the subjects had brought the contraband into Mexico where they attempted to bury it. The vehicle was negative for stolen or wants. [REDACTED]

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6. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - EL PASO / FABENS - On November 28, 2002 at approximately 0845 the agent working [REDACTED] observed an illegal entry activity about nine miles west of the Fabens Port of Entry. The agent observed two individuals on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River, one individual along the levee on the United States side and approximately ten individuals standing along the river bank on the U.S. side. The agent noticed that the two individuals on the Mexican side were carrying military type rifles (M-16 style) and were wearing military type clothing. For officer safety reasons the agent observed all the individuals from a safe vantage point. Upon being noticed by the Agent the subjects walked back into Mexico. As the subject walked back into Mexico the agent noticed the subject that had been hiding along the levee on the U.S. side was also carrying a military type rifle and wearing military type clothing. Once on the Mexican side, the three subjects wearing military clothing waved at the agent and departed the area along with the rest. A short time later a military humvee vehicle approached the ten subjects and spoke to them. The vehicle then proceeded to the levee the area after picking up the subjects. At no time did the agent observe these individuals make any threatening actions towards him. [REDACTED]

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7. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - MCALLEN / RIO GRANDE CITY - On January 6, 2003 while conducting [REDACTED] in the Roma, Texas area, Agents observed several Mexican Military soldiers escorting three aliens up river from the Roma Port of Entry. The three aliens were carrying a yellow inflatable raft. The individuals, three aliens and six Mexican Military soldiers (with their weapons)

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crossed the Rio Grande River to an island located just upriver from the Roma Port of Entry. The island is considered to be United States territory.

One individual and a Mexican soldier guided a raft back to the Mexican side with what appeared to be white bundles. One of the Mexican soldiers admitted to Agents that in fact it was a total of ten bundles of marijuana they extracted from the island. [REDACTED]

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8. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - SAN DIEGO / EL CAJON -

On January 16, 2003 at approximately 1815 hours, a senior Border Patrol Agent responded to [REDACTED] in the San Diego, El Cajon Border [REDACTED] located approximately 6 miles east of the Tecate, California POE (Port of Entry), near the 241 [REDACTED] After searching the immediate area of the [REDACTED] which is located adjacent to the fence at the U.S./Mexico International border. The prints [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The Border Patrol Agent approached the end of the steel fence in order to ascertain whether the subjects were still in the immediate area. The agent then observed six to ten individuals on the Mexican side of the border. They were crouched in the brush approximately 15 feet from his position. At this time the agent was able to identify the subjects as Mexican Military. They were wearing black jackets, brown and beige camouflage pants, and ski masks over their faces, and were armed with automatic rifles. One subject then approached the fence and spoke to the Border Patrol Agent. The subject indicated that they (Mexican Military) were conducting counter drug operations in the area. There were no threats to the Border Patrol Agents and after officer safety was secured, all subjects and agents departed without further incident. [REDACTED]

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9. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - TUCSON / NOGALES -

On January 20, 2003 at approximately 1650 hours, two Border Patrol Agents were patrolling the west side of Nogales, Arizona. They were traveling on [REDACTED] approximately 1.5 miles north of the International Boundary Fence when they encountered a member of the Mexican Military. The Mexican Army Sergeant was identified as [REDACTED] The soldier was wearing a Mexican Army uniform and was in possession of a long arm, which he claimed was issued to him by Mexican Military. The long arm was then immediately surrendered to the Border Patrol Agents without any incident. After a brief interview, it was determined that the soldier was illegally in the United States. The soldier was taken into custody and transported to the Nogales Border Patrol Station for processing. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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10. MEXICAN GOVERNMENT INCURSION – TUCSON / NACO – On January 25, 2003 at approximately 1645 hours, a Border Patrol Agent [redacted]

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Naco, Arizona area. As he approached the line near Christianson's Ranch, the Agent observed three individuals about five feet north of the International Boundary fence walking southbound. He described the three individuals as Hispanic males. All three individuals were wearing jeans and sweatshirts and one of them was carrying a camera. The agent believed that one was a member of Grupo Beta and the other two subjects were



employees from the television station Univision. He then observed the three subjects jump over the International Boundary fence and meet up with approximately 15 members of the Grupo Beta. All of the members of Grupo Beta on the south side were wearing jeans and orange jackets with an unknown type of Mexican logo on the sleeve of the jacket. Also identified were four or five trucks, two orange in color, with a large logo on the side of the trucks stating Grupo Beta. No weapons were observed. The

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Patrol Agent In Charge and the Mexican Consulate were notified. [redacted]

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[redacted] Note: Grupo Beta are special police units established primarily to protect migrants from crime—including corruption by local police—and to crack down on alien smugglers.

11. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) – MCALLEN / RIO GRANDE CITY – On February 15, 2003 [redacted]

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observed two Mexican soldiers [redacted]

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[redacted] After a few minutes of discussion, the individual signaled to other subjects [redacted]

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[redacted] During this time, the soldiers walked down to the river and surveyed the area,

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after which they prepared a raft. The soldiers then signaled to the individual [redacted]

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and people started coming [redacted] and headed to the river where the soldiers

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were located. The soldiers then assisted the subjects onto the raft and sent them on their

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way north toward the United States. [redacted]

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[redacted]

12. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) – YUMA / YUMA – On

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February 27, 2003 at approximately 1435 hours, Patrol Agents [redacted]

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[redacted] on the International Boundary, east of Monument 198, encountered two Mexican

military vehicles traveling towards the International Boundary. One vehicle was a green

Humvee with five Mexican soldiers the other was a two door green pick-up truck with

four soldiers. The Border Patrol Agent and a Mexican soldier who identified himself as

the Commander of the unit exited the vehicles and made contact. The commander stated

that his unit was the 22nd Regiment of San Luis Sonora, Mexico and they were patrolling

the area because many vehicles were seen entering the United States possibly carrying

drugs, east of this area. All the Mexican soldiers were armed. The Border Patrol Agent

reported to the Supervisory Agent in charge where he was instructed to release them.

The Senior Border Patrol Agent then advised the Mexican Military personnel that they

were in the United States and directed them to return to Mexico. The soldiers were

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cooperative and returned to Mexico with no further incident. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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13. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) - EL PASO / DEMING - On March 16, 2003 a United States Citizen (USC) reported that he was bicycling along the U.S./Mexico International Boundary, west of Columbus, New Mexico when he stopped [redacted] to take some photographs. A white colored pickup, with a camper shell, emergency light bar, bearing Ascencion, Chihuahua, license plates drove up on the dirt road, in Mexico, that parallels the road that the biker was traveling. The pickup had "Policia" on the door and the number five on the right front quarter panel. Three armed men got out of the pickup. Two of the men were carrying what appeared to be 9mm pistols and the third was carrying an M-16 automatic. One of the men (carrying a 9mm) approached the USC and asked the USC, in the English language, "Are you a narco?" The USC responded, "No." Other questions were asked of the USC such as "What are you doing out here?" and "Where are you going?" The USC also stated that the policeman asked if he could search the USC's knapsack. The USC told the policeman, "No." The policeman said something to his other two companions in the Spanish language, returned to the pickup and traveled toward Las Palomas. The incident was reported to the Policia Judicial in Las Palomas, Chihuahua, Mexico. [redacted]

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14. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) - EL PASO / EL PASO - On March 23, 2003, Border Patrol Agents of the El Paso Station observed a Mexican Army soldier walking northbound on the Stanton International Bridge. The soldier was armed with a machine gun, keeping it secured on his shoulder making it difficult to identify. The Agents under the bridge informed the soldier that he had crossed the international border. He responded that he was just looking around and was returning to Mexico. The soldier never brandished the weapon and returned back to Mexico. The incursion was about 50 yards past the international line between Mexico and the United States.

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15. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - LAREDO / ZAPATA - On April 5, 2003, at approximately 1200 hrs, U.S. Border Patrol Agents of the [redacted] received a call from the Texas Game Wardens requesting assistance. The Wardens advised that they were in a confrontation with armed Mexican Military on the U.S. side of Falcon International Reservoir. While preparing the Border Patrol boat for launch, the Game Wardens called back and advised that they had disengaged and were enroute to the [redacted] and requested to meet with Border Patrol Agents.

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Upon arrival they advised Border Patrol Agents that they had been challenged by five members of the Mexican Military on the U.S. side of Falcon Lake. The Wardens advised that they had [redacted]

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[redacted] When the Wardens advised the Mexican Military to return to the Mexican side and that they were going to take custody of the nine Mexican nationals and their unregistered boat, the Mexican Military told the Wardens that the Military would take the people. After a prolonged

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confrontation over who would take custody of the nine subjects, the Mexican Military told the Wardens that the Wardens could take two of the subjects and the boat and that the Military would take seven of the subjects. The Wardens allowed the Mexican Military to take seven of the subjects. The Mexican Military returned and gave one of their subjects back to the Game Wardens. The Game Wardens took custody of the three subjects and their boat for having an unregistered boat in U.S. waters. The Game Wardens handed the three subjects over to the U.S. Border Patrol. The three aliens were taken to the Zapata Station for processing. The Game Wardens retained custody of the boat.

All of the aliens were offered the opportunity to contact the Mexican Consulate, which the aliens turned down. The aliens were also offered medical assistance, which they also turned down. After processing, the aliens were offered, and accepted, a voluntary return to Mexico. [REDACTED]

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16. MEXICAN CUSTOMS INCURSION (UNARMED) - SAN DIEGO / CHULA VISTA - On June 5, 2003 Chula Vista Border Patrol Agents initiated a traffic stop [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The two subjects in the vehicle identified themselves as Mexican Customs officers. The San Diego Mexican Liaison Unit was contacted and they checked with their Mexican counterparts in the (SAT) Servicios de Administracion Tributaria who confirmed the employment of the two individuals. The subjects were not armed. They were released upon completion of records checks. [REDACTED]

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17. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - EL PASO / FABENS - On July 9, 2003 at approximately 1240 hours a Border Patrol Agent was patrolling the border approximately [REDACTED] with his K-9 in an unmarked vehicle. [REDACTED] Upon nearing the location the agent saw six people who had just entered the United States from México by crossing the Rio Grande River afoot. It appeared to the agent that two of the individuals were leading the other four. As the agent neared the group the four subjects in the rear ran back into México. The other two subjects in front began to move more slowly toward the Rio Grande. The agent could see that both subjects were wearing military fatigues and were carrying rifles. In order to protect himself the agent exited his vehicle, drew his service pistol and ordered the two individuals to lie down. The subjects threw the rifles into some bushes at the edge of the Rio Grande and lay down. Back-up arrived and the subjects were taken into custody and transported to the [REDACTED] Station. They both had identification papers indicating that they are members of the Mexican Army. El Paso Sector (MLU) contacted the Mexican Army and confirmed their status. The rifles were recovered and were G-2, 7.62 mm, and semi-automatic. The soldiers and all of their equipment were returned to México without further incident. [REDACTED]

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18. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) - EL CENTRO / CALEXICO - On July 9, 2003 at approximately 1245 the El Centro Station [REDACTED]

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(b)(2) [redacted] reported observing four uniformed individuals carrying rifles and
(b)(2) wearing side arms, enter the United States from México, approximately [redacted] west of
the Port of Entry at Calexico, California. The four individuals appeared to be Mexican
Law Enforcement Officers. They walked approximately thirty yards north of the
southern bank of the All American Canal, spoke with people swimming in the canal for
approximately five minutes and then walked back to México without further incident.

(b)(2) [redacted]

19. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (ARMED) - EL CENTRO / CALEXICO -

On July 26, 2003, Border Patrol Agents assigned to the Calexico, California Station
encountered eight armed Mexican military personnel and a military Humvee that was
stuck in the sand about [redacted]

(b)(2) [redacted]
(b)(2) [redacted] The Mexican
Army soldiers were taken into custody without incident and transported to the Calexico,
California Border Patrol Station. After confirmation from a high-ranking Mexican
Military Official of their identities, all subjects and their vehicle were returned to Mexico
via the Port of Entry at Calexico, California without further incident. [redacted]

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(b)(2) [redacted]

20. GRUPO BETA INCURSION (UNARMED) - SAN DIEGO/BROWNFIELD -

On July 28, 2003, Border Patrol Agents assigned to the Brownfield, California Station
encountered two Mexican Nationals on Tecate Peak, one-quarter mile north of the
International Border and four miles west of the Tecate, California, Port of Entry. The
two Mexican Nationals claimed to be Grupo Beta Agents from Tecate, Baja California,
Mexico. They were unarmed and in plain clothes. One of the two had Grupo Beta
credentials. They stated that they were searching for a reported sick female Mexican
National who had entered the United States two days prior. BORSTAR was activated
and responded to the site to conduct a search for the missing woman. BORSTAR
Agents, Brownfield Border Patrol Agents, and the Grupo Beta Agents worked together,
but were unsuccessful in finding the woman. The Beta Agents returned to México
without further incident. [redacted]

(b)(2) [redacted]

21. MEXICAN MILITARY INCURSION (UNARMED) - YUMA/YUMA -

On August 25, 2003, Border Patrol Agents assigned to the Yuma, Arizona Station
apprehended two members of the 22nd Regiment of the Mexican Military after they
made an illegal entry into the United States east of San Luis, Arizona. The subjects, who
were in plain clothes and unarmed, stated that they were lost. Both subjects were
processed and later voluntarily returned to Mexico. The Mexican Consulate was notified.

(b)(2) [redacted]

22. GRUPO BETA INCURSION (UNARMED) - YUMA/YUMA -

On August 26, 2003, Border Patrol Agents assigned to the Yuma, Arizona Station reported that Mexican
"Grupo Beta" officials had made an incursion into the United States near Andrade,
California. The Mexican agents were in a foot pursuit of a subject that was involved in
alien smuggling when they inadvertently crossed the border. Shortly after arriving in the
area, Border Patrol Agents arrested the fleeing subject and encountered a Mexican agent

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nearby. The Mexican agent was allowed to return to Mexico without incident. Mexican Consulate's Office was notified. [REDACTED]

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23. MEXICAN POLICE INCURSION (ARMED) - EL CENTRO/EL CENTRO -

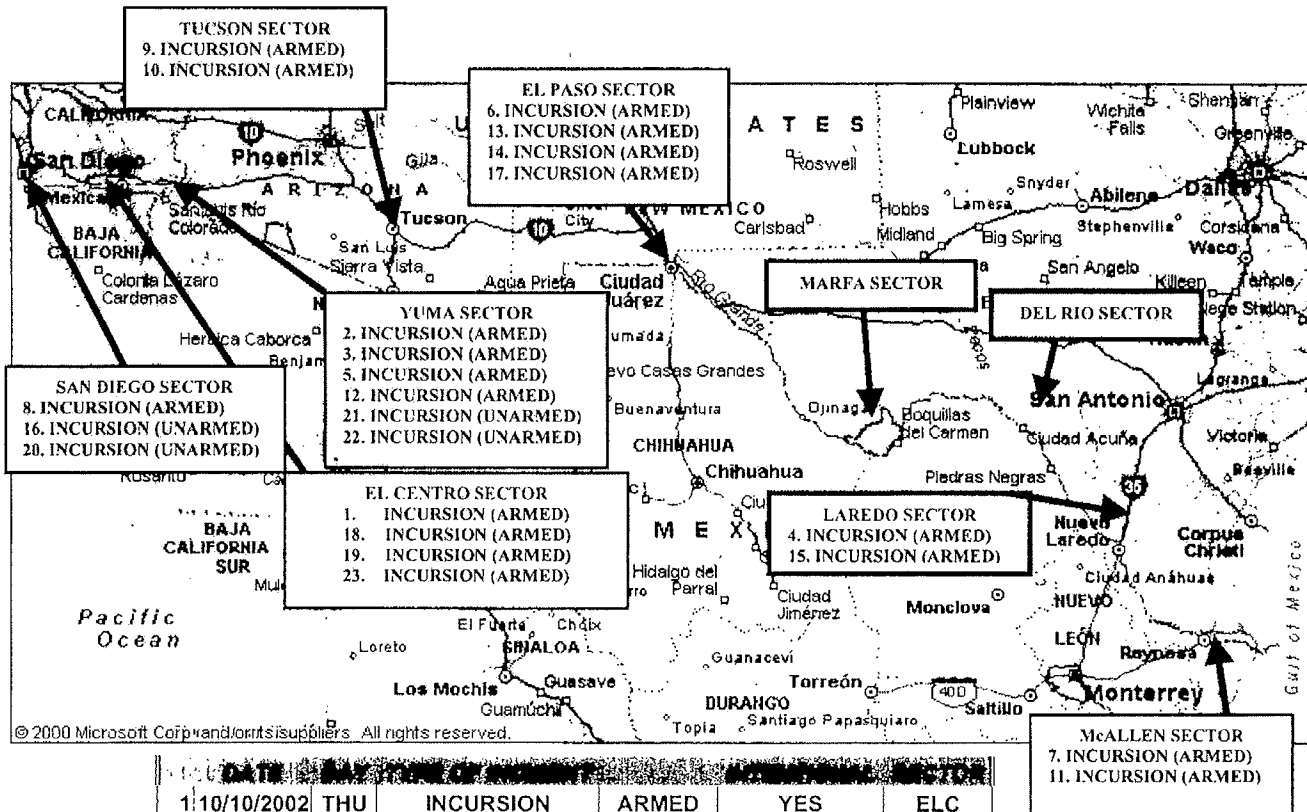
On September 14, 2003, a Border Patrol Agent assigned to the Calexico, California Station working the [REDACTED] observed an individual carrying a rifle on the south bank of the All American Canal. The Mexicali, Baja California Police Department was notified. While searching for the armed individual, Mexicali Police Officers entered into the United States territory (approximately forty yards.) After a brief incursion all Mexicali Police Officers returned to México. Mexicali Police Officers took seven people into custody and it is unknown if the armed individual was one of them. [REDACTED]

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Chronological Listing and Map of Incursions for FY 2003



INCURSION #	DATE	DAY	TYPE	ARMED	YES	SECTOR
1	10/10/2002	THU	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	ELC
2	10/13/2002	SUN	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	YUM
3	10/22/2002	WED	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	YUM
4	11/5/2002	WED	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	LRT
5	11/7/2002	THU	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	YUM
6	11/28/2002	THU	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	EPT
7	1/6/2003	MON	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	MCA
8	1/16/2003	THU	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	SDC
9	1/20/2003	MON	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	TCA
10	1/25/2003	TUE	INCURSION	UNARMED	YES	TCA
11	2/15/2003	SAT	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	MCA
12	2/27/2003	THU	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	YUM
13	3/16/2003	SUN	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	EPT
14	3/23/2003	SUN	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	EPT
15	4/05/2003	SAT	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	LRT
16	6/11/2003	WED	INCURSION	UNARMED	YES	SDC
17	7/9/2003	WED	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	EPT
18	7/9/2003	WED	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	ELC
19	7/26/2003	SAT	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	ELC
20	7/27/2003	SUN	INCURSION	UNARMED	YES	SDC
21	8/25/2003	MON	INCURSION	UNARMED	YES	YUM
22	8/26/2003	TUE	INCURSION	UNARMED	YES	YUM
23	9/14/2003	SUN	INCURSION	ARMED	YES	ELC

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SECTION TWO - ENCOUNTERS

An Encounter is any activity by Mexican Government Personnel on the Mexican side of the U.S. - Mexico Border that which results in interaction between the parties involved.

1. MEXICAN MILITARY ENCOUNTER - EL PASO / DEMING - On October 3, 2002 at approximately 1520 hours, a Border Patrol Agent on duty was approached by the Mexican Police near the Columbus Port of Entry. Mexican Police advised the Agent that their robbery suspect had just illegally entered the United States. The Border Patrol Agent then responded and encountered the suspect, who was in a Present Without Admission (PWA) status. The suspect was taken into custody and entered into the ENFORCE/IDENT System. [REDACTED]

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(b)(7)(e)

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[REDACTED] The suspect's record returned with extensive criminal history including aggravated burglary, larceny, criminal damage to property, and tampering with evidence. During processing, the subject stated that shortly before being apprehended, he consumed eleven Valium pills and smoked two Marijuana cigarettes. The subject then started acting lethargic and non-responsive. [REDACTED]

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2. MEXICAN MILITARY ENCOUNTER - EL PASO / FORT HANCOCK - On this date, agents responded to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] When the agents arrived at they found a vehicle (2001 Ford F250 extended cab 4 x 4 pick up truck) stuck and submerged in the Rio Grande River. There was also a John Deere tractor on the Mexican side of the river attempting to pull the truck out of the river back into Mexico.

There was a Mexican Military Humvee on the south bank adjacent to the truck and 10 soldiers, all which were carrying automatics weapons. Agents spoke with the soldiers and it was determined that they (U.S. authorities) would take custody of the vehicle since it was on the side of the river. When the vehicle was recovered from the river a registration check on the plates displayed [REDACTED] returned to the white Ford F350 Crew Cab that was seized on Saturday 10/12/2002 containing 1901.80 pound of marijuana subsequence to the shooting incident. [REDACTED]

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3. MEXICAN MILITARY ENCOUNTER - EL PASO / LORDSBURG - On January 3, 2003 Border Patrol Agents apprehended a Mexican soldier illegally in the United States. The subject was near a freight train located on the east end of Lordsburg, New Mexico and was attempting to conceal himself from the Border Patrol Agents. The subject was wearing olive and drab green clothing with military insignia. The subject also admitted to being in the Mexican military and being stationed somewhere in Cuauhtemoc Chihuahua, Mexico. The subject had illegally entered the United States on January 1, 2003, near Columbus, New Mexico and then made his way north to Deming, New Mexico to board a westbound freight train. He then jumped off the train as it sided in Lordsburg in order to look for food. The subject stated that he did not want to be part of the Military lifestyle and was in route to Phoenix, Arizona to be with friends and seek a better paying job. [REDACTED]

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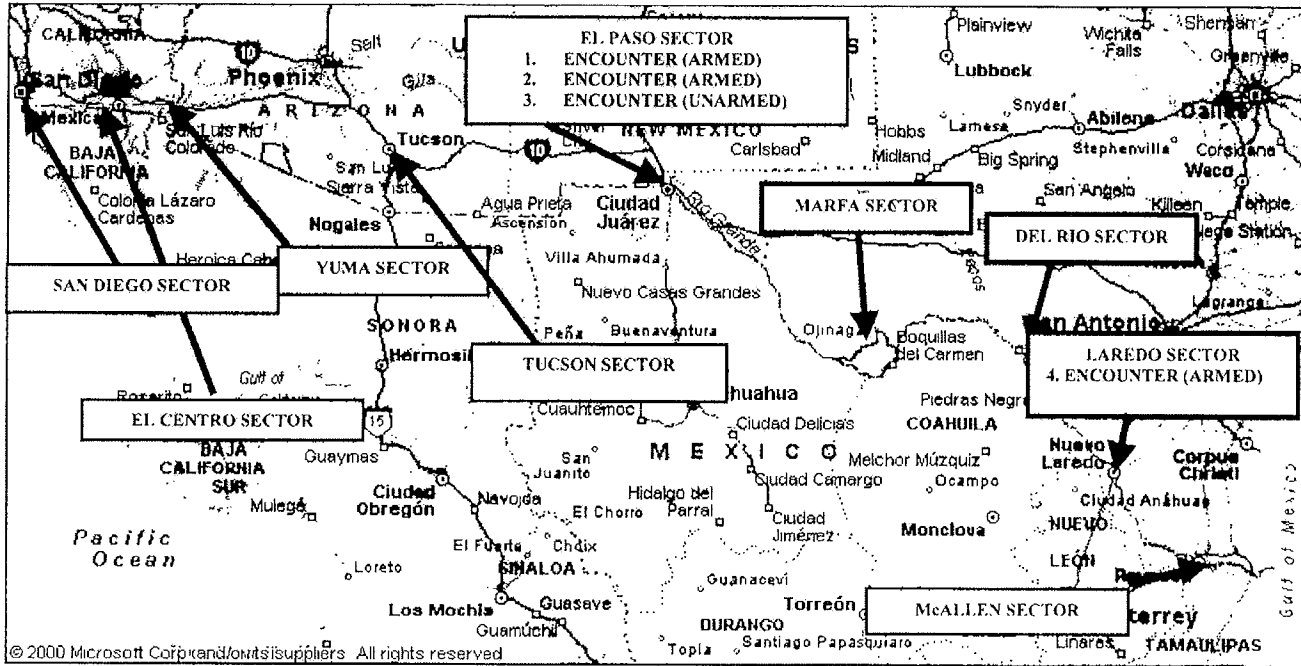
4. MEXICAN MILITARY ENCOUNTER – LAREDO / LAREDO NORTH - On 04 March 2003 at approximately 1925 hours, Border Patrol agents responded to a call near the riverbanks on [REDACTED] in Laredo, Texas. The agents on duty reported hearing 8 to 10 shots fired on the Mexican side of the border. Upon arriving to the area, the agents observed several suspected illegal aliens crossing from Mexico to the United States. The Border Patrol agents then proceeded to apprehend five undocumented immigrants. The immigrants stated that the Mexican military had fired shots at them. The undocumented immigrants were then transported to the Laredo North Station for processing. The Mexican Consulate was notified about the incident and no injuries to the undocumented immigrants were reported. [REDACTED]

(b)(6)

(b)(2)

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Chronological Listing and Map of Encounters for FY 2003



1	10/3/2002	THU	ENCOUNTER	YES	YES	EPT
2	10/15/2002	TUE	ENCOUNTER	YES	YES	EPT
3	1/3/2003	FRI	ENCOUNTER	NO	YES	EPT
4	3/4/2003	MON	ENCOUNTER	YES	YES	LRT

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SECTION THREE - SIGNIFICANT SIGHTINGS

A Sighting is the discovery of significant Mexican Government activity, which is not an encounter, on the Mexican side of the Border, which may be of LEA interest

1. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - MCALLEN / BROWNSVILLE - On October 03, 2002 at approximately 9:15 A.M., Agents working

(b)(2) [redacted] in Brownsville, Texas reported shots fired. The agents reported that they observed a maroon vehicle on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande River approaching the river's edge. The vehicle came to a stop and shots were fired shortly thereafter. The agents observed Mexican military emerge from a brushy area near the suspect's vehicle. Two male subjects were observed fleeing the area. One male subject was apprehended near the vehicle and the second male subject jumped into the river to avoid apprehension. Mexican Immigration Officers (Grupo Beta) were summoned to the area to investigate and attempt to apprehend the male subject at large. One subject remained at large in the middle of the river. Subject remained afloat in the middle of the river and refused to grasp a life rescue line offered to him by Border Patrol Agents. No injuries were sustained to officers or any individuals involved. One male subject eventually surrendered to Border Patrol Agents on the U.S. side. Agents report (b)(2) that approximately 6 shots were fired from rifles of unknown make and model. [redacted]

(b)(2) [redacted]

(b)(2) **MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - EL PASO / FABENS** - On November 2, 2002 [redacted] POE agents were deterring illegal entry of some subjects when a shot was fired in the immediate vicinity of the Agent. The agent saw a subject dressed in green with a black vest. The subject upon seeing the agent unloaded his rifle and hid in the brush on the Mexican side of the international boundary. Some subjects on the Mexican side fled to the U.S. and hid. They were later located and taken into custody. There were no injuries to the agents or the subjects. The Mexican military was contacted to verify if the subject who fired the weapon was from the Mexican military or someone dressed as one. [redacted]

(b)(2) [redacted]

(b)(2) **2. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - MC ALLEN / RIO GRANDE** - On December 2, 2002 at approximately 0730 hours, agents from the Rio Grande City, Texas Border Patrol Station responded to [redacted] This is approximately five miles east of Rio Grande City, Texas. As they arrived in the immediate vicinity, they heard several gunshots. They took cover and immediately heard numerous people in the river splashing as they absconded to Mexico. Once the area was secure, agents moved in and recovered three newer model trucks loaded with bundles of Marijuana. A Taurus .40 caliber semi-automatic handgun was found next to one of the trucks at the river's edge. McAllen Sector aircraft was requested to aid in this seizure in looking for subjects on the United States side of the river. Upon arrival to the area, the pilot advised that there was a Mexican Military camp across the river from the seizure location with soldiers within one hundred yards of where all the subjects had crossed

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from, and returned back to Mexico. This activity occurred in the presence of the Mexican Military and could not have been unnoticed. A total of two hundred thirty nine packages weighing 4, 372 pounds of Marijuana in the three trucks were seized. [redacted] (b)(2)

(b)(2)

3. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - LAREDO / ZAPATA - On December 3, 2002 at approximately 2130 hours US Border Patrol Agents working along [redacted] heard motorized boats approaching from the south. As they passed their position, the Agents were able to see [redacted] that there were three boats navigating the lake very close to each other. They also noticed that there were two people in each of the first two boats and six people in the third boat. The six persons were wearing military type clothing and the boat, which was black in color, was not a regular fishing boat. This boat, which appeared to be a Mexican Military boat, was providing security and escort for the two others that were later found to be transporting 2, 716.53 pounds of Marijuana. The military boat never made landfall, but sat off shore as if looking out for anyone else in the area. The two loaded boats left after unloading the contraband. The military boat left, only after back up arrived, to assist the Agents on the ground. [redacted]

(b)(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(2)

(b)(2)

4. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - YUMA / WELTON - On December 22, 2002, at approximately 1930 hours, three Border Patrol Agents on duty at the Welton station were operating [redacted]

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(b)(2)

[redacted] heard a vehicle [redacted] stop rapidly. Using [redacted] the Agents then observed an individual jump from the vehicle on the Mexican Highway and run across the Highway towards the Agents location. At this time one of the Border Patrol Agents then turned his attention to the Humvee and observed three individuals in the back of the vehicle, two of the subjects were carrying rifles. One of the individuals was pointing his rifle in the direction of the Agents while the other was at the ready position with his weapon pointed slightly toward the ground. The Agents noticed they were in immediate possible danger of being fired upon. The Agents departed the area and met with the other Agent attempted to make contact Yuma Sector radio dispatch. Agents observed both vehicles driving in a circular pattern near their original location [redacted]

(b)(2)

5. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - MC ALLEN / RIO GRANDE CITY - On February 15, 2003 the agent assigned to the area of Roma, Texas was using the [redacted] [redacted] The agent observed peculiar behavior on the Mexican side of the border. Two Mexican soldiers approached [redacted]

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(b)(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(2)
(b)(2)

[redacted] The soldiers appeared to visit [redacted] to speak with a subject waiting outside. After a few minutes of discussion, the individual signaled to other subject [redacted] During this time, the soldiers walked down to the river and surveyed the river area, after which they prepared a raft. The soldiers signaled the individuals [redacted] and people came out [redacted] towards the river where the soldiers were located. The soldiers assisted the subjects onto the raft and sent them north toward the United States. The agent determined that the subjects were Mexican Military

(b)(2)

(b)(2)

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(b)(2) with the [redacted] The subjects were seen carrying a long arm commonly issued
(b)(2) to Mexican soldiers. [redacted]

(b)(2) **7. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) – MC ALLEN / MC ALLEN -**
On February 19, 2003 while [redacted] agents observed two
(b)(2) armed men moving north toward their location under the bridge by the Rio Grande River.
(b)(2) The two men were dressed in green t-shirts, olive drab military style pants and black
(b)(2) boots. The men were armed with black rifles. Most significant is that while the agents
(b)(2) [redacted] the men began to move toward the river tactically using the support pillars as
(b)(2) cover. [redacted]

(b)(2) **8. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - TUCSON/ NACO -** On March
(b)(2) 20, 2003, Senior Patrol Agent spoke to the head of Mexican Customs for the Naco
(b)(2) District. The Naco District's area of operation is from Santa Cruz, Sonora, México and
(b)(2) South to Cananea, Sonora, México. [redacted]

[redacted]

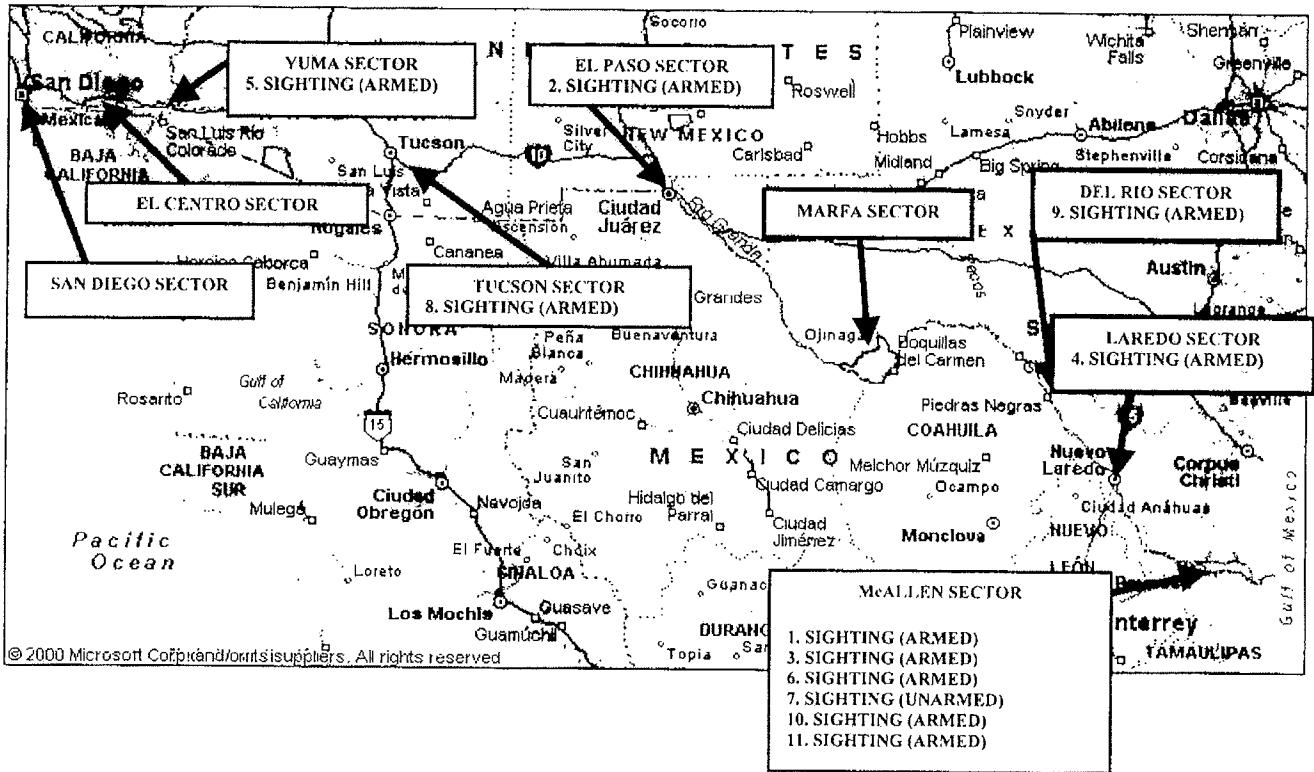
(b)(2) [redacted]

(b)(2) **9. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (UNARMED) - MCALLEN /**
(b)(2) **BROWNSVILLE -** On Sunday July 27, 2003, Border Patrol Agent observed what
(b)(2) appeared to be a Mexican Military Camp Site. This site is located [redacted]
(b)(2) across from [redacted] There also appeared to be four to five soldiers
(b)(2) camped around a woodland camouflaged Humvee vehicle. There were no noticeable
(b)(2) weapons observed. [redacted]

(b)(2) **10. MEXICAN MILITARY SIGHTING (ARMED) - MCALLEN / WESLACO -**
(b)(2) On September 17, 2003 Weslaco Agents apprehended two undocumented aliens North of
(b)(2) the [redacted] who stated they had come into contact with a Mexican
(b)(2) Military camp located South of the [redacted] They stated that they were briefly
(b)(2) questioned as to where they were from and what they planned on doing in this area and
(b)(2) were told to move to another area before crossing. The aliens stated that after being
(b)(2) questioned the soldiers stated that they would be working up and downriver of this
(b)(2) immediate area for the next thirty days primarily for narcotics interdiction. The aliens
(b)(2) stated there appeared to be about twenty-five soldiers in the area all carrying automatic
(b)(2) rifles. Also seen in the area were three Humvees. This area we will be checked for any
(b)(2) continuing Mexican Military activity. [redacted]

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Chronological Listing and Map of Sightings for FY 2003

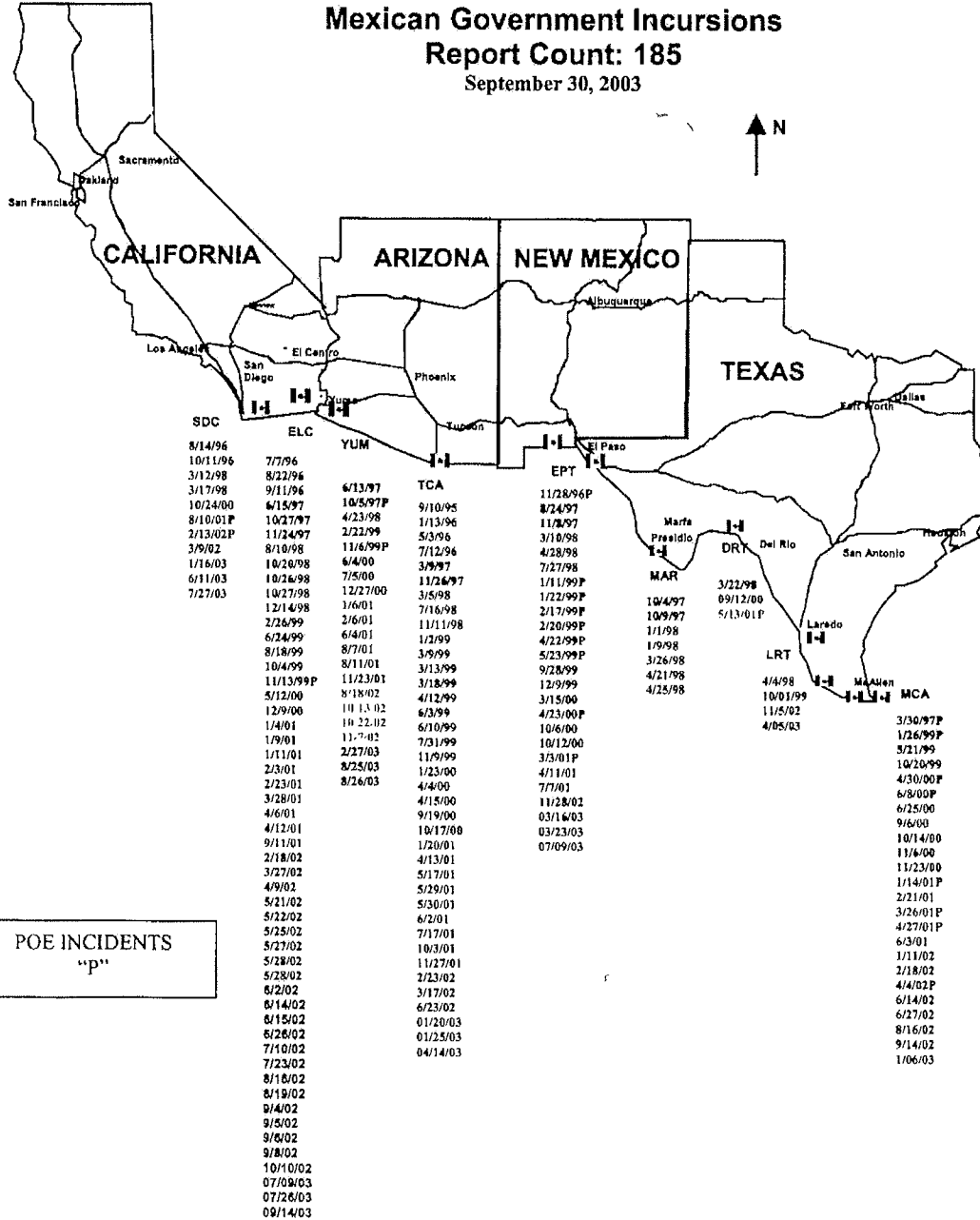


1	10/3/2002	THU	SIGHTING	YES	YES	MCA
2	11/2/2002	SAT	SIGHTING	YES	YES	EPT
3	12/2/2002	MON	SIGHTING	YES	YES	MCA
4	12/3/2002	TUE	SIGHTING	YES	YES	LRT
5	12/22/2002	SUN	SIGHTING	YES	YES	YUM
6	2/15/2003	SUN	SIGHTING	YES	YES	MCA
7	2/19/2003	THU	SIGHTING	YES	YES	MCA
8	3/20/2003	THU	SIGHTING	YES	YES	TCA
9	4/8/2003	TUE	SIGHTING	YES	YES	DRT
10	7/27/2003	SUN	SIGHTING	NO	YES	MCA
11	9/17/2003	WED	SIGHTING	YES	YES	MCA

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ATTACHMENT "A"

Map of Incursions by Year and Sector FY 1996-Present



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For corrections, amendments, and suggestions, notify:

Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
Border Patrol Special Coordination Center
Bldg. 11624 SSG Sims Rd.
Biggs AAF, El Paso, Texas 79908

POC:
Tel:
Fax:

(b)(7)(c)
(b)(2)

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