

Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)

From: [redacted] (ATF)
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:53 AM
To: Axelrod, Matthew (ODAG)
Subject: More on the Helicopter Incident
Attachments: 05-29-2011 JILOTLAN DE LOS DOLORES, JALISCO--RELEVANTE--FOTOS [redacted] ATF
[redacted] ATF DOCX; 05-29-2011 JILOTLAN HELICOPTER INCIDENT.DOCX;
ROI 393.pdf; ROI 351.pdf; ROI 352.pdf; ROI 353.pdf; ROI 367.pdf

Matt:

[redacted] **ATF**

this has not changed.

I have attached the further reports from Mexico and all ROIs related to the purchases.

[redacted]
ATF

Per the e-mail below
down.

[redacted] **ATF**

we will try to run that

Let me know if you need more.

[redacted] **ATF**

Office of the Director
O: 202-648 [redacted] ATF
C [redacted] **ATF**
HQ Room 5 S 100

From: Chait, Mark R.
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:22 AM
To: [redacted] **ATF**
Subject: FW:

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From: ATF
To: Hoover, William G.; Dait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.; ATF
Cc: ATF
Sent: Wed Jun 08 18:25:24 2011
Subject:

Guys

I have the story straight now after talking with the players involved in the shooting of an SSP helicopter (see CBS web link). The reason we went the extra step, was because the original PGR reports to this office regarding this incident and closer inspection of the firearms by MCO did not make match the circumstances that PGR was reporting.

On or about May 24, 2011, near the border of Michoacán and Jalisco State's, SSP attempted to arrest a group of armed La Familia members. As the SSP SWAT Team (GOPES) were being deployed by helicopter, La Familia opened fire hitting the helicopter and wounding two SSP personnel. The helicopter was able to fly away under its own power and made an emergency landing in order to seek medical attention to the wounded parties, all survived. According, to reliable U.S. sources, the helicopter could have flown all the way back to base camp without a problem and helicopter is back in operation.

On or about May 29, 2011, as a follow up to the May 24, 2011, operation, SSP once again deployed (see transcribed Mexican newspaper article and ATF EPIC bulletin) their SWAT Team (GOPES) on an operation against La Familia in the town of Jilotlan de Los Dolores, Jalisco, Mexico. (Im sure a lovely town) Approximately 875 kilometers hours from Mexico City.

During that operation, as the SSP helicopters were landing, they came under intense and sustained gunfire from a group of La Familia near the landing zone. As a result, four helicopters were hit but were able to fly back to base safely and all are back in operation as of this report.. This has been confirmed by a reliable U.S. government source who inspected the damage.

During the ensuing firefight SSP forces killed 15 La Familia members and arrested another 36. There are no reported SSP casualties. SSP seized 70 rifles (7.62 & .223), 1 50 cal rifle, 14 handguns, 3 grenades, 578 magazines of various calibers, 21, 121 rounds of assorted ammo and approximately 40 level 3 ballistic vests with ceramic plates.

On May 30, 2011, Acting Country Attache ATF contacted the Mexican AG's Office and coordinated the transfer of the seizure to Mexico City from Jalisco.

On May 31, 2001, at the PGR/SIEDO offices, ATF MCO Acting Attache ATF Intel Chief ATF and FSN ATF inspected the above described seizure and submitted their results to the NTC for tracing. As a result ATF

ATF

It is highly unlikely that the PGR will conduct ballistic examinations to determine which firearms were used to shoot at the helicopter. The only other reported incident of similar nature occurred in Arteago, Michoacán, Mexico, on December 9, 2010, when SSP helicopters came under fire while deploying SSP GOPES. As a result, 5 SSP personnel were killed. DEA Intel sources tell ATF MCO that La Familia has contacted SSP and informed them that they will continue to attempt to shoot down their helicopters.

NOTE, Preliminary reports regarding this incident from PGR to this office were simply incorrect. Mexican AG is aware that F&F firearms were recovered as a result of the May, 29, 2001 event. She was concerned but not alarmed in any way.

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-31727_162-20069270-10391695.html

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