

From: **ATF**  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 12:00:30 PM  
To: Newell, William D.  
Subject: RE: Phoenix F/As Traff case

Attachments: **ATF** Chart 1.pdf

Bill

Sorry I missed your e-mail. Here is a PDF version of the chart. If you ever need anything from me or Intel after hours, please don't hesitate to call **ATF**.

**ATF**  
Intelligence Research Specialist  
Phoenix Field Division



-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Sunday, December 20, 2009 2:18 PM  
To: **ATF**  
Subject: Fw: Phoenix F/As Traff case

**ATF** hate to bug you on a Sunday but if you're home with your laptop is there another way you can send this document to me. My home computer can't open it with this format. I've got a meeting with the USA in the morning near where I live and won't be coming to the office. Thanks!  
Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)



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----- Original Message -----

From: **ATF**  
To: Martin, Steve K.; Newell, William D.  
Cc: **ATF**  
Kristen E; **ATF**  
Sent: Sat Dec 19 22:33:37 2009  
Subject: RE: Phoenix F/As Traff case

**ATF** Here is an updated version of the i2 chart that was sent to GS **ATF**. I updated it with a couple of photographs furnished by **ATF**. **ATF** stated that she was going to do a time line on this case. Please view the i2 chart and if you need assistance with the time line please advise.

-----Original Message-----

From: Martin, Steve K.  
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 6:04 PM

To: Newell, William D.

Cc: ATF

Subject: RE: Phoenix F/As Traff case

Let's see what we can do.  
Steve

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.

Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 6:03 PM

To: Martin, Steve K.

Subject: Re: Phoenix F/As Traff case

I never received anything but I think my new GS did. He's out today closing on his house. If I can get the chart sent to me would be great. The new USA is a "visual guy".

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

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----- Original Message -----

From: Martin, Steve K.

To: Newell, William D.

Sent: Fri Dec 18 18:01:19 2009

Subject: RE: Phoenix F/As Traff case

Am I too late on this one?

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D.

Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2009 11:30 AM

To: Martin, Steve K.

Subject: Re: Phoenix F/As Traff case

I'm meeting with the USA on Monday to brief him on this and several other high-profile cases we got going right now. I need some "visuals". McMahon said your guys put together a time-line chart that would be good to use in my briefing of the USA.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

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----- Original Message -----

From: Martin, Steve K.

To: Newell, William D.; Chait, Mark R.  
Sent: Wed Dec 16 20:57:57 2009  
Subject: Re: Phoenix F/As Traff case

Outstanding! If there is anything we can do--ANYTHING to help just throw it our way.

Good luck

Steve

Steve Martin-DAD-OSII/ATF

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.

To: Martin, Steve K.; Chait, Mark R.

Sent: Wed Dec 16 20:47:42 2009

Subject: Phoenix F/As Traff case

**ATF**

**DEA**

**ATF**

Our OCDETF proposal is being fast-tracked, USAO fully on board as are DEA and ICE. It's an ATF Strike Force case, Phoenix Grp 7.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

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From: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2009 1:23:42 PM  
To: Newell, William D.  
Subject: Re: [ATF] case status?

At least 17 of the guns recently recovered in [ATF] purchasers.

The OCDETF proposal was drafted yesterday.

Total purchased last week (including yesterday) were approximately 175.

George T. Gillett  
Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
ATF - Phoenix Field Division

[REDACTED]

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Sun Dec 13 13:14:35 2009  
Subject: [ATF] case status?

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: [REDACTED]

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**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:35 PM

**To:** Martin, Steve K.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

Amen brother. George Gillett had to have a long talk with one [ATF] yesterday because we heard he was one of the "hand wringers" on this deal and asking why we weren't shutting this deal down now. I had Gillett call him and "counsel" him on why we weren't going to do that and if he had anymore concerns to contact us directly and not worry so much about those things he has absolutely no control over, or say in for that matter. By the way isn't he the head of the SWB Group??

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

[REDACTED]

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 3:32 PM

**To:** Newell, William D.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

Great stuff—aiming for those cartels! It is painful trying to get the powers to be to see that the target is the top in the cartel and not the straw purchase urchin (whose brain should be sucked dry for intel). Good luck and let us know how we can help.  
Steve

---

**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:29 PM

**To:** Martin, Steve K.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

10-4, they are on stand-by.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

[ATF]

---

**From:** Martin, Steve K.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 3:29 PM

**To:** Newell, William D.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

Sweet!

[ATF]

---

**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:25 PM

**To:** Martin, Steve K.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

# ATF

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 3:23 PM

**To:** Newell, William D.

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

I will.

# ATF

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**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:20 PM

**To:** Martin, Steve K.

**Subject:** Re: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

No but I'm hoping you'll buy it for me. Also,

ATF

DEA

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.

**To:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Fri Dec 18 17:16:55 2009

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

**You got the book?**

---

**From:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 5:09 PM

**To:**

ATF

# ATF

**Subject:** RE: New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

Dr. Shirk was the guy who testified before a House approps committee this year along with **DEA**  
**DEA** Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, and I in relation to SWB violence. Interesting guy, for an academic.

Bill Newell  
 Special Agent in Charge  
 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
 Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

**From:** **ATF**  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 12:14 PM  
**To:** **ATF**

**ATF**

**Subject:** New academic book on Mexican law enforcement touches on Firearms Trafficking

Gentlemen:

The Trans-Border Institute at the University of San Diego announced a new book (copyright 2010) – The ***Police and Public Security in Mexico*** - website <http://www.justiceinmexico.org/resources/publications.php>

Starting on page 15, of the attached “preview” of the new books introduction it addresses Firearms Trafficking

**Members of this Trans-Border Institute include many senior advisors in both the US and Mexico governments.**

This book may be something that other parties may be quoting from in future meetings, like they do with any new GAO and CRS reports. I have not seen the entire book yet and can only offer the attached preview.

VR,

**ATF**



## Southwest Border Initiative (Project Gunrunner)

### Biweekly Update

January 25, 2009

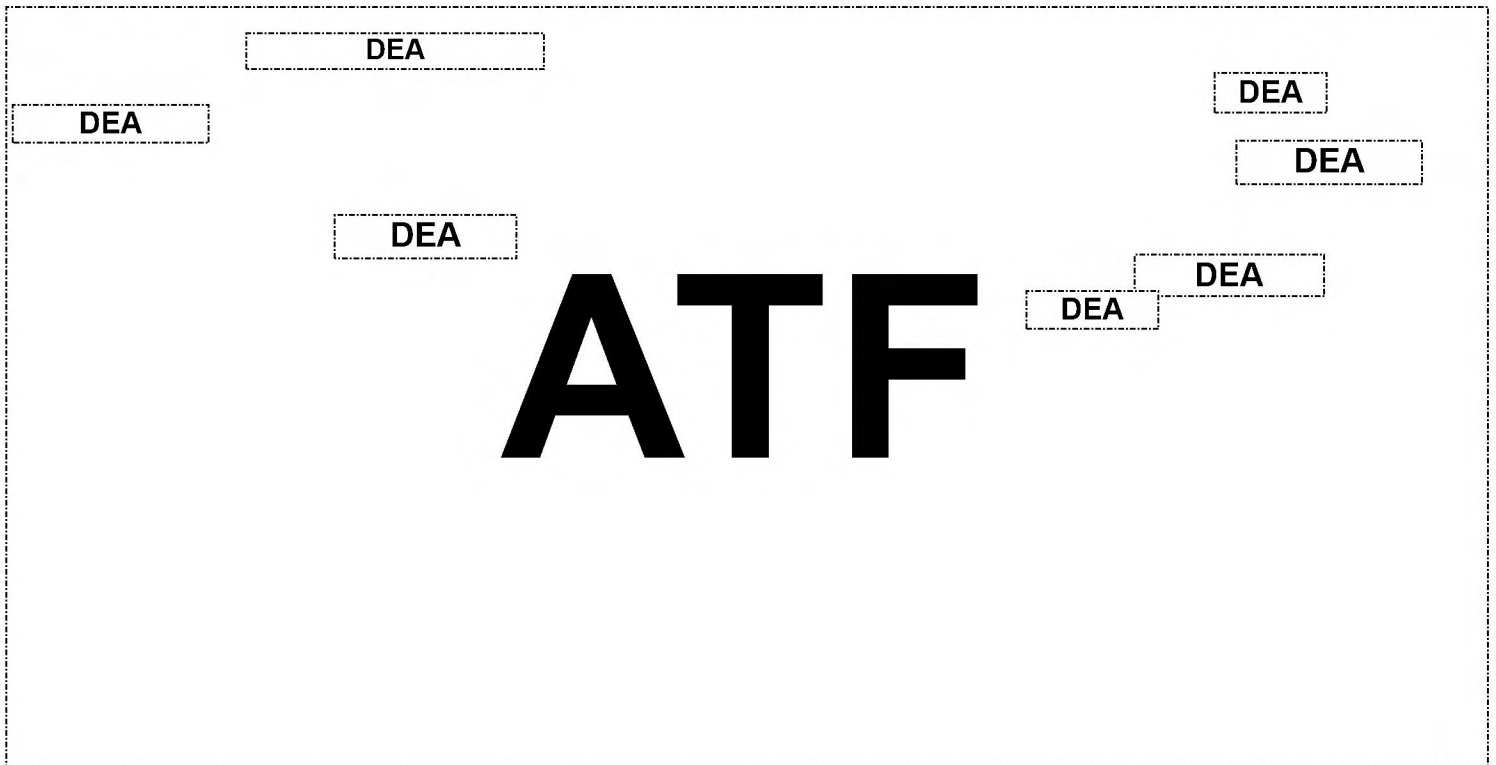
The following is a biweekly update on significant events related to the Southwest Border Initiative. The information is collected from the different ATF offices involved in this initiative and intended for ATF use only.

### FIELD OPERATIONS

#### DALLAS FIELD DIVISION

##### Investigations:

#### El Paso Field Office



**LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION**

No new updates provide for this period.

**PHOENIX FIELD DIVISION****Investigations:****Phoenix Group VII****ATF**

785115-10-0004

**ATF**

et al: This case is a

**ATF****ATF****Tucson Group II****ATF**

**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2010 1:45 PM  
**To:** McMahon, William G.  
**Subject:** FW: OCDETF Proposal  
**Attachments:** The Fast and The Furious.doc; The Fast and The Furious narrative.doc

"Fast and Furious" case was approved today by the OCDETF committee.

ATF

ATF

**ATF**

Bill Newell  
 Special Agent in Charge  
 Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
 Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2010 11:26 AM  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Subject:** FW: OCDETF Proposal

Bill --

ATF

and

ATF

OCDETF proposal was unanimously passed today at the USAO. This

**ATF**

ATF

ATF

coordinate with ATF Counsel and the USAO regarding

ATF

ATF

ATF

whatever those

might be.

**George T. Gillett**  
 Assistant Special Agent in Charge  
 ATF - Phoenix Field Division  
 Office: (602) 776-5400



**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2010 10:09 PM  
**To:** Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)  
**Subject:** Re:

Yes, Matt and I have discussed. It is obviously wrong and he said he'll take care of it but I will tell you my folks are steaming mad. I realize ICE is desperate for stats for their "BESTs" but this is not the way to go about it. Nothing in this report is true except that this is a joint case, somewhat.

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)



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**From:** Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Thu Feb 25 22:02:18 2010  
**Subject:** RE:

Isn't this your case that you sent me a note about earlier this week?

---

**From:** Newell, William D. (ATF)  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2010 4:36 PM  
**To:** Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)  
**Subject:** Fw:

Totally inaccurate.  
Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)



\*\*\*

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**From:** ATF  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Thu Feb 25 18:32:55 2010  
**Subject:**

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement  
Daily Summary of Operational Report  
February 24, 2010**

*The information contained in this report should be considered preliminary. It is a synopsis provided in raw form and has not yet been reviewed by ICE Leadership.*

## INVESTIGATIONS

### Division I – National Security Investigations

#### Counter Proliferation Unit

On February 20, 2010, SAC Phoenix Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST) agents seized 41 AK-47 style firearms and 43 AK-47 style magazines on the Tohono O'odham Nation Indian reservation. Angela VENTURA and Kina MIGUEL, both U.S. citizens, were transporting the weapons to Mexico when BEST agents requested CBP Border Patrol (BP) assistance in conducting a traffic stop, which resulted in the seizure. Both subjects were interviewed, and upon concurrence with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona, VENTURA and MIGUEL were released to be charged at a later date. This is a joint ICE and ATF investigation with CBP BP assistance.

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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010 10:18 PM  
**To:** Gillett, George T. Jr.  
**Subject:** Fw: **ATF** Investigation synopsis

Alert **ATF** to this and coordinate with **ATF** at EPIC. I'll talk to Champ.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: **ATF**

\*\*\*

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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**To:** Chait, Mark R.; Champion, Robert R.  
**Cc:** McMahon, William G.  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 22:17:21 2010  
**Subject:** Re: **ATF** Investigation synopsis

These guns were purchased by our primary suspect in our OCDETF Strike Force case. It's the 900+ gun trafficking case. It's the same case we seized the 41 guns this past Saturday, **ATF**

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: **ATF**

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**From:** Chait, Mark R.  
**To:** Champion, Robert R.; Newell, William D.  
**Cc:** McMahon, William G.  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 21:42:46 2010  
**Subject:** Fw: **ATF** Investigation synopsis

Champ/Bill - do you know the connection to the Phoenix case and any subjects identified in Mexico? Thanks

Mark R. Chait

Acting Assistant Director

Field Operations

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**From:** Hoover, William J.  
**To:** Chait, Mark R.; Melson, Kenneth E.  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 21:36:35 2010  
**Subject:** Re: **ATF** Investigation synopsis

Mark,



Are we going any further with this investigation? Did we l'd the buyer in Mx? Etc.....

Billy  
William J. Hoover  
Assistant Director  
Bureau of ATF

(O)202-648-8710  
(C) ATF

\*\*\*

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**From:** Chait, Mark R.  
**To:** Melson, Kenneth E.; Hoover, William J.  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 21:02:44 2010  
**Subject:** Fw: DEA, ATF

Ken - below are some details of the case involving the 40 firearms in Texas.  
Mark R. Chait  
Acting Assistant Director  
Field Operations

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**From:** Champion, Robert R.  
**To:** Chait, Mark R.; McMahon, William G.; Webb, J. Dewey  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 20:57:09 2010  
**Subject:** Fw: DEA, ATF

FYI,

Here is the follow-up on the investigation with more detail.  
Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks,

Robert R. Champion  
Special Agent in Charge  
Dallas Field Division

ATF

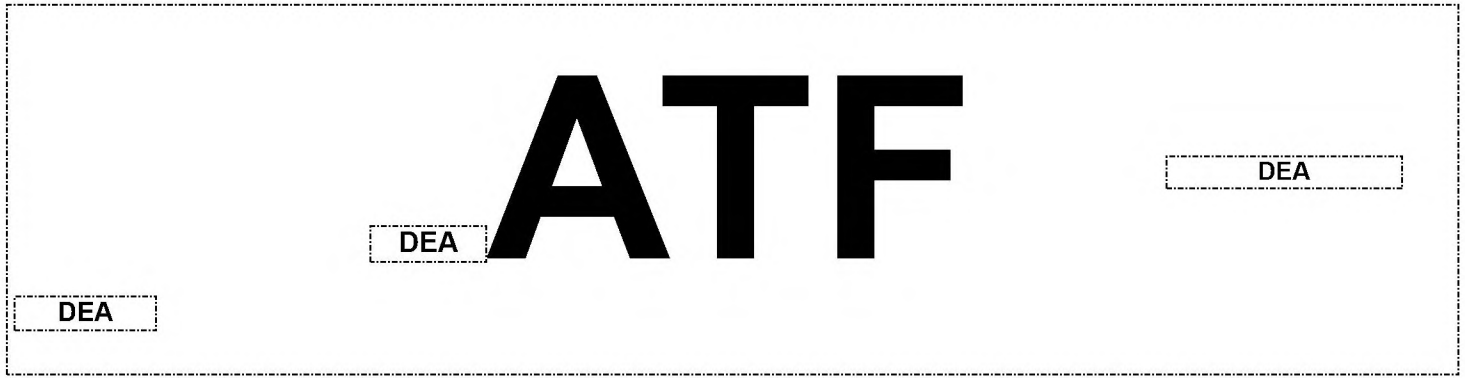
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**From:** ATF  
**To:** Champion, Robert R.  
**Cc:** Golson Sr., Michael A.  
**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 20:24:07 2010

**Subject:** RE: DEA, ATF Investigation synopsis



The Case agent subsequently learned that the firearms recovered were purchased by an individual identified as part of an on-going investigation being conducted by the Phoenix VII Field Office.

On 01/21/2010 All 40 Firearms were transported to the Department of Public Safety Laboratory in El Paso, Texas to be entered into the NIBIN system.

DEA, ATF was indicted on 02/10/2010 and is currently in custody awaiting trial.

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**From:** Champion, Robert R.

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2010 5:46 PM

**To:** ATF

**Subject:** Re: ATF Investigation

ATF

Can you provide me some more detail on the case.

Thank you,

Robert R. Champion  
Special Agent in Charge  
Dallas Field Division

469-227-4300

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**From:** ATF

**To:** Golson Sr., Michael A.; Champion, Robert R.

**Sent:** Wed Feb 24 19:36:26 2010

**Subject:** Sandoval Investigation

ATF

The case number for the investigation involving the 40 AK-47 type rifles that are currently being entered into NIBIN by the Department of Public Safety is 781035-10-0016

Let me know what additional information is needed.

S/A: ATF

El Paso Field Office

OFC:915-534-6449 ext **ATF**  
FAX:915-534-6453



From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: 17 Tuesday, February 23, 2010 1:49:44 PM  
To: [REDACTED] (DEA-US)  
Subject: Fw:

Attachments: IMG00032.jpg.jpg

Good luck this past weekend in our Phoenix "Fast and Furious" Strike Force case. [REDACTED] ATF [REDACTED] were stopped by our Tucson guys and BP as they tried to cross the border into Mexico on the TO reservation. [REDACTED] ATF [REDACTED]

**ATF**

**DEA**

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: [REDACTED] ATF

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----- Original Message -----

From: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
To: Newell, William D.  
Sent: Sun Feb 21 13:01:22 2010  
Subject: Fw:

Photo of yesterday's recovery.

George T. Gillett  
ASAC - Phoenix Field Division

Cell: [REDACTED] ATF

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----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED] ATF [REDACTED]@vzwpx.com <[REDACTED] ATF [REDACTED]@vzwpx.com>  
To: Gillett, George T. Jr.  
Sent: Sun Feb 21 12:55:41 2010  
Subject: Fw:

This message has been sent using the picture and Video service from Verizon Wireless!

To learn how you can snap pictures and capture videos with your wireless phone visit [www.verizonwireless.com/picture](http://www.verizonwireless.com/picture).

Note: To play video messages sent to email, Quicktime@ 6.5 or higher is required.





From: Newell, William D.  
Sent: <sup>19</sup>Monday, February 22, 2010 10:18:15 AM  
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)  
Subject: RE: TNW .50 caliber rifle

10-4, it's part of the "Fast and Furious" OCDETF Strike Force case we are [redacted] ATF. This group is up to approx 800 "weapons of choice" mainly AK-47s, FN 5.7 pistols, etc. [redacted] ATF is fully up to speed on it but if you want a more in-depth briefing we can do that over here at your earliest convenience. We have the charts showing the trafficking hierarchy, links due to purchases, phone tolls, intel from surveillance, etc.

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)  
Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)  
Office - (602)776-5400

-----Original Message-----

From: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ) [mailto:[redacted] ATF]  
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 8:13 AM  
To: Newell, William D.  
Cc: [redacted] ATF (USAAZ)  
Subject: RE: TNW .50 caliber rifle

What happened last Saturday w/ the 42 AK-47s? Do we have that case?

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, William D. (ATF)  
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2010 7:34 AM  
To: Burke, Dennis (USAAZ)  
Cc: [redacted] ATF (USAAZ)  
Subject: TNW .50 caliber rifle

This is was seizure two weeks ago in Baja Norte, Mexico. In the picture ATF SA [redacted] ATF is inspecting the TNW, .50 caliber rifle. If you recall two years ago we seized 42 "weapons of choice" out of a storage locker in Yuma following a Phoenix gun show operation. Also seized was approx 500 rounds of linked .50 caliber ammo. All were headed to Mexico and all are still in our ATF vaults here in Phoenix. [redacted] ATF

**ATF**

[redacted] ATF Since then several TNW, .50 caliber rifles have been seized in Mexico [redacted] ATF

**ATF**

One of the TNW, .50 caliber rifles seized was the one in April, 2009 in Sonora from the Beltran Leyva DTO (see second photo attachment). The pictures of this gun, mounted in the back of a pickup behind a man-made shooting platform, fed the rumor mill on the internet and the media of the people who believe that this gun, and many more like it, come from

the Central/South American black market or are "stolen" from the Mexican military. Not true at least not in this case and from what we see on a daily basis - including the 42 AK-47 rifles we seized this past Saturday west of Tucson and a mile from the border. The Casa Grande Border Patrol folks assisted us in an outstanding manner with this. The two cars carrying these firearms were about to cross into Mexico. This is from the ATF "Fast and Furious" OCDETF case. ATF

**ATF**

Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) Phoenix Field  
Division (Arizona and New Mexico) Office - (602)776-5400



Phoenix Field Division – Project Gunrunner Investigations with a Nexus to Mexico Cartels  
*February 25, 2010*

**Phoenix Group I**



**Yuma Satellite Office**



**Phoenix Group VII**



**ATF**

785115-10-0004 DEA, ATF et al

This case is a ATF

**ATF**

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (SWAZP0496).

**ATF**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group I**

**ATF**

**Tucson Group II**

**ATF**

**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 11:59 PM  
**To:** Martin, Steve K.  
**Subject:** Re: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, **ATF**

10-4.  
Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)  
Cell: **ATF**

\*\*\*

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 29 23:46:59 2010  
**Subject:** RE: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, **ATF**

**Let's discuss tomorrow when we are both working—sound good??**

---

**From:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 7:38 PM  
**To:** Martin, Steve K.  
**Subject:** Re: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, **ATF**

I'll bet.  
Bill Newell  
Special Agent in Charge  
ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)  
Cell: **ATF**

\*\*\*

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.  
**To:** Newell, William D.  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 29 19:33:25 2010  
**Subject:** Re: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, **ATF**

Your buddy Matt sends hugs and kisses.  
Steve Martin-DAD-OSII/ATF

\*\*\*

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**From:** Newell, William D.  
**To:** Martin, Steve K.  
**Sent:** Mon Mar 29 19:30:13 2010

**Subject:** Re: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, [ATF]

I told Bill to take you out for a beer and bitch to you for me.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

ATF Phoenix Field Division (AZ and NM)

Cell: [ATF]

\*\*\*

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**From:** Martin, Steve K.

**To:** Newell, William D.

**Sent:** Mon Mar 29 19:29:02 2010

**Subject:** Re: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, [ATF]

I will call later and we can talk.

Steve Martin-DAD-OSII/ATF

\*\*\*

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**From:** Newell, William D.

**To:** Martin, Steve K.

**Sent:** Mon Mar 29 18:31:09 2010

**Subject:** FW: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, [SG4818]

You don't want to see the e-mail that [ATF] sent to Gillett when he got this from [ATF]. You know me brother I want to help and firmly believe this is a "Team ATF" effort but it appears the more we give the more they want. [ATF] and his crew are up to their eyeballs [ATF] and we are all very short handed here. I thought you guys were going to send someone out? If you did they could do all this here and save us the hassle because I've got nobody to spare.

Bill Newell

Special Agent in Charge

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)

Phoenix Field Division (Arizona and New Mexico)

Office - (602)776-5400

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**From:** Gillett, George T. Jr.

**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 3:12 PM

**To:** [ATF]

**Cc:** Newell, William D.; O'Keefe, Kevin C.

**Subject:** FW: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, [ATF]

Lorren ---

Please call me any time after 10:00 AM tomorrow. We can discuss this.

**Privacy, ATF**



**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 12:52 PM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** RE: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, ATF

ATF I appreciate the affidavit that you sent it had some information for us to further collect intelligence that we hope will be helpful in your prosecution. But I was asking was complete access to all ATF  
 ATF Also your surveillance logs or ROIs would also assist us. We would like to further exploit the intelligence information from these records. I will be back in the office tomorrow. Please call me in the morning. I will be briefing the AD's at 11:00am and would appreciate a call before then.

**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 11:54 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Subject:** FW: TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, ATF

Any details...? - Thanks

**From:** ATF  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2010 6:22 AM  
**To:** ATF  
**Cc:** ATF  
**Subject:** TWO Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO, ATF

**Subject:** Suspect Gun firearm recovered, MEXICO.

**Case Agents:** ATF

The National Tracing Center (NTC) has received a Trace request for the above listed firearm. To prevent the NTC from releasing information that may jeopardize your investigation, please choose one of the following. It is extremely important that if your case is still active that you state whether or not we may conduct a Trace on this firearm.

A written response (email communication is sufficient) is required within 7 days of initial notification regarding this email. If a response is not received within this time frame the NTC may be compelled to release trace summary information to the requestor.

*All information regarding this and any other trace requests can be obtained by using eTrace. In the event that you do not have access, access can be requested by contacting the Law Enforcement Support Branch at 304-260-1500 or 800-788-7133.*

Please advise as to whether your case is:

- a) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors for only this firearm.
- b) Active - NTC may release Trace disposition history to other Requestors. (This is to be applied to all remaining firearms in this Suspect Gun file)
- c) Active - NTC may not release Trace disposition history to other Requestors.
- d) Inactive - NTC will release Trace disposition to other Requestors.

**Suspect Gun Details:**

ATF IN Number:

Suspect Gun File Number:

Suspect Gun submission request date:

**ATF****Trace details regarding firearm recovery:**

Serial Number:

Serial Number:

Manufacturer:

Type:

Caliber:

Model:

Recovered

Location:

Suspects:

Trace Requestor:

Requesting Agency:

Phone Number:

Trace Requestor:

Requesting Agency:

Phone Number:

**ATF**

THIS US SOURCED FIREARM WAS RECOVERED IN MEXICO. FOR DETAILS RELATING TO THE SEIZURE, PLEASE CONTACT  
ATF-EPIC BRANCH CHIEF, **ATF** VIA E-MAIL OR AT **ATF**

**ATF**

Program Analyst

ATF National Tracing Center

244 Needy Rd.

Martinsburg, WV 25405-9431

**ATF**(800)788-7133 ext. **ATF**

Fax: (800)578-7223

## ATF INVESTIGATIONS

# ATF

Operation: Big Musky **ATF** /ATF Case # 778065-09-0050

**ATF**

Operation: Fast and Furious ( **DEA, AFT** et al)/ATF Case # 785115-10-0004

This is an approved ATF OCDETF investigation (# SWAZP0496) that is **ATF**

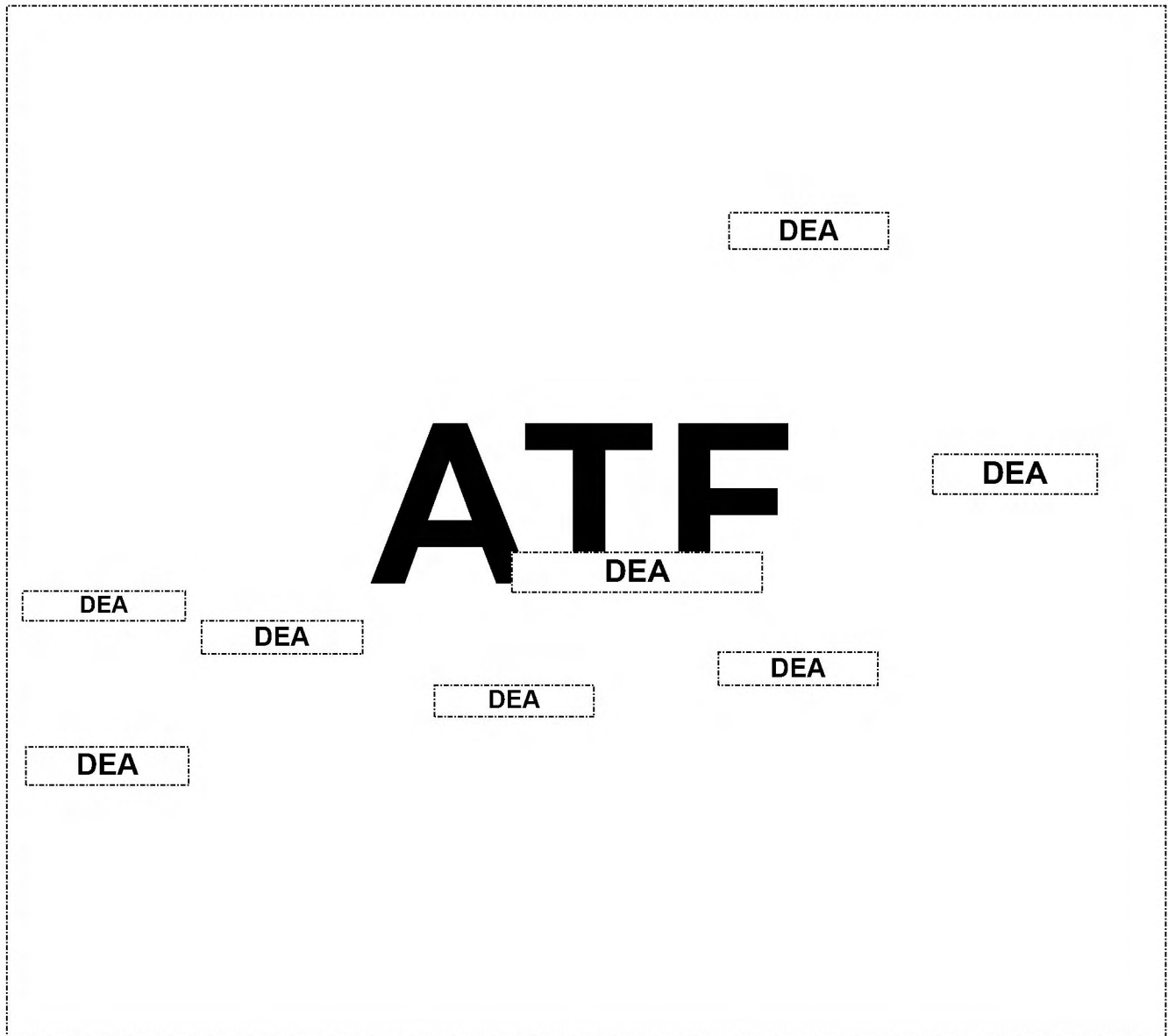
**ATF**

**DEA**

**ATF**

**DEA**





As of April 27, 2010 approximately 150 of the firearms from this case have been recovered as crime guns in Mexico or near the Mexican border.

Operation Zebra/ATF Case #: **782025-07-0017**



From: McDermond, James E.  
 Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 11:02:47 AM  
 To: Newell, William D.  
 Subject: Re: Mexico clips

Bill,

I totally concur with your comments. With your operation pending we need to take a strategic approach in an effort to impact the DTO's. As you know all too well we can identify, arrest and hopefully prosecute straw purchasers all day long. The question we need to ask ourselves as a federal agency is what is the impact we are having on the root of the problem (DTOs).

As you also know we continue to lack human intelligence coming from Mexico. I believe this is where we need to focus our assets if we are going to be truly successful.

I continue to bring this issue to my colleagues and the increase in personnel within country will help but I am still not sure we really understand the dynamics that exist in Mexico which will allow ATF to have a significant impact.

With the recent changes at HQ I will continue to support you and your staff in anyway I can. Please help me help you by providing me your suggestions and requests so that ATF can be successful.

Regards,  
 Jim  
 James McDermond, AD-ATF-OSII

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----- Original Message -----

From: Newell, William D.  
 To: McMahon, William G.  
 Cc: Webb, J. Dewey; Champion, Robert R.; McDermond, James E.  
 Sent: Mon Apr 26 10:37:24 2010  
 Subject: Mexico clips

As you know over the past several days there have been several brazen attacks in Mexico against police and Gov't officials. The State Security Director in Michoacán's convoy was attacked (4 killed and 10 wounded including 2 and 12 year old girls). Used in the attack was a .50 cal due to her SUV being lightly armored. (The spike in .50 cal is something we've been highlighting for 2.5 years and explaining the reasons why - exactly what occurred in this recent attack). Now that these tactics have supposedly "changed", which I dispute because we've been talking about that for two years, expect the rhetoric from Mexico regarding firearms from the U.S. to intensify. It's one thing when bad guys are killing bad guys but when top level officials are being specifically targeted at all levels then all bets are off.

Mexico says cartels turning attacks on authorities

By MARK STEVENSON

The Associated Press

11:21 p.m. Sunday, April 25, 2010

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's drug cartels have changed tactics and are turning more attacks on authorities, rather than focusing their fire on rivals gangs, the country's top security official said Sunday.

Interior Secretary Fernandez Gomez-Mont said at a news conference that two back-to-back, bloody ambushes of government convoys — both blamed on cartels — represent a new tactic.

"In the last few weeks the dynamics of the violence have changed. The criminals have decided to directly confront and attack the authorities," Gomez-Mont said.

"They are trying to direct their fire power at what they fear most at this moment, which is the authorities," he said.

Officials here have long said that more than 90 percent of the death toll in Mexico's wave of drug violence — which has claimed more than 22,700 lives since a government crackdown began in December 2006 — are victims of disputes between rival gangs.

Mexican drug gangs have been known to target security officials. The nation's acting federal police chief was shot dead in May 2008 in an attack attributed to drug traffickers lashing back at President Felipe Calderon's offensive against organized crime.

But such high-profile attacks were rare in comparison to inter-gang warfare. But after the large-scale attacks on officials Friday and Saturday, "casualties among the authorities are beginning to increase in this battle," Gomez-Mont said.

On Saturday, gunmen armed with assault rifles and grenades attacked a convoy carrying the top security official of the western state of Michoacan, in what appeared to be a carefully planned ambush.

The official survived with non-life-threatening wounds — she was traveling in a bullet-resistant SUV — but two of her bodyguards and two passers-by were killed. Of the other nine people wounded, most were bystanders, including two girls ages 2 and 12.

Gomez-Mont said the attack was carried out by a group known as "The Resistance," an outgrowth of the Michoacan-based La Familia drug cartel.

It came a day after, gunmen ambushed two police vehicles at a busy intersection in the northern border city of Ciudad Juarez, killing seven officers and a 17-year-old boy caught in the crossfire. Two more officers were seriously wounded.

Hours after that attack, a painted message directed at top federal police commanders and claiming responsibility for the attack appeared on a wall in downtown Ciudad Juarez. It was apparently signed by La Linea, the enforcement arm of the Juarez drug cartel. The Juarez cartel has been locked in a bloody turf battle with the Sinaloa cartel, led by Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman.

"This will happen to you ... for being with El Chapo Guzman and to all the dirtbags who support him. Sincerely, La Linea," the message read. The authenticity of the message could not be independently verified.

Gomez-Mont, who is responsible for domestic security affairs, said the United States has to do more to stop cross-border gangs and illicit trade in weapons and money.

He said some gangs "find a certain kind of sanctuary on the other side of the border," referring to Los Aztecas, a Ciudad Juarez gang that also operates in the United States, where it is known as the Barrio Azteca gang.

"They (the United States) contribute very important components in the dynamic of violence," Gomez-Mont said.

"We need the Americans to step up and recognize the fact that it is their money, their drug demand, that foments and encourages the violence in Mexico. We need the Americans to assume their responsibility," he said.

The U.S. has supported Mexico's offensive, providing helicopters, dogs, surveillance gear and other law-enforcement support through the \$1.3 billion Merida Initiative. "That is not a small amount, but it is not sufficient," Gomez-Mont said.

A few hours before his comments, the military reported that Mexican soldiers killed five men Saturday in a shootout with assailants in a town near the northern city of Monterrey and detained six police officers on suspicion of helping the attackers. The Defense Department alleged the police tried to interfere with the troops during the confrontation.

Drug cartels are known to operate in the area, and many members of local police forces are suspected of aiding the gangs.

In the Pacific coast state of Guerrero, a drive-by shooting killed the local leader of the tiny Labor Party outside his home Sunday, state police reported. Former legislator Rey Hernandez Garcia was hit by seven gunshots.

Police did not offer any information on a possible motive in the attack.