

PC March 2, 2011
The Mexican Regional Intelligence and Operations Coordination Center (RIOCC)

The RIOCC is an extension of the unprecedented intelligence sharing and coordination which has occurred over the past year. An initial team of 4-6 law enforcement and 3 DOD civilians is in the process of being deployed and should be at the RIOCC by March 2, 2011.

The action plan for implementing the DEA led United States RIOCC Team which will assist and train Mexican counterparts at the RIOCC has been approved by the interagency participants.

Force Protection is a concern for everyone. Steps have been taken to ensure the safety of our US contingent, including the following:

- RIOCC is located on a secured military base.
- RIOCC has its own perimeter fencing and closed caption cameras.
- SEDENA CM7A Security conducts daily proactive threat mitigation activities
- US staff (excluding management) will not leave the base.
- US Staff will be flown directly to the base.
- Management travel off the base will be limited.
- Any Management travel off base will include security.

Timing for complete implementation is 10 to 30 days after approval and contingent upon establishment of communications capabilities.

There are still some loose ends to wrap up, including

- Exchange of diplomatic notes
- Finalizing of the Privileges and Immunities Agreement
- Completion of the MOU for non reimbursable details of DOD civilians to the DEA
- Purchase/delivery/installation of equipment
- Preparation for Classified Congressional briefing
- Vetting of all GOM Unit commanders
 - All GOM staff at the RIOCC have been vetted (including human rights vetting); Some of the unit commanders have changed and the vetting of their replacements is pending.

RIOCC Background Information

The operational strategy is to assist in the establishment and operation of the GOM RIOCC. The assistance will be in the areas of intelligence collection and fusion, targeting and operational planning. The RIOCC facility will fuse intelligence and apply that information to plan tactical operations to be carried out by the Mexican military and federal law enforcement agencies in the region to disrupt TCOs and allow GOM authorities to assert control over the Northeast.

The US RIOCC team is lead by a DEA Director and will include law enforcement personnel from ICE, CBP, FBI,ATF and the USMS, DOD civilian employees detailed to the DEA and representatives of ODNI. It is anticipated that about 45 US personnel will be located at the RIOCC.

In addition to the intelligence analysis and operational planning, USG personnel will mentor their Mexican counterparts. The ultimate goal is for the RIOCC to become a fully functional integrated GOM intelligence center