

TIJUANA—SAN DIEGO GROUP

Personnel, 21 elements vetted and trained. Functions, intelligence investigations in all the national territory in order to locate the Arellano Félix brothers.

Information exchange, this group will be supported by the Border Task Forces, FEADS, CENDRO and all PGR structure. Meetings to coordinate and exchange information with a similar group in San Diego, California are also taking place.

EXTRADITIONS IN PROCESS—FIGURES UPDATED TO FEBRUARY 13, 1999

Active (Mexico requests to other countries), Total 383; with the U.S.—355, 92.6%.

Passive (Requests made to Mexico by other countries), Total 235; from the U.S.—210, 89.3%.

Application of the provisions to prevent and detect transactions carried out with resources from illicit origin.

Suspicious transaction reports, 715; concerning transaction reports, 31; and large value transaction reports, 5,623,665.

Mexican citizens surrendered in extradition to the U.S.

Mexicans by naturalization: John Amos Devries (Robbery/fraud 07/27/95), Leslie Wortemberg Kenneth (Drug Trafficking 01/19/96), and Dominick Espósito Joseph (Drug trafficking 06/12/96).

Native Mexicans: Francisco Gómez García (Sexual Abuse 04/17/96), Aaron Morel Lebaron (Criminal Association 04/25/96), Delia Cantú de Sánchez (Sexual Assault 03/04/98), Rosendo Gutiérrez Rojero (Sexual Abuse 10/15/98), and Bernardo Velárdes López (Drug trafficking/Homicide of a BP agent 11/06/98).

Mexican citizens subject to extradition proceeding at the 1st step (Not Compulsory Opinion of the District Judge).

Gerardo Alvarez Vázquez (Drug trafficking 12/03/97), Miguel Ángel Martínez Mtz. (Drug trafficking 06/08/98), and Luis Amezcua Contreras (Drug trafficking 10/08/98). (All provisional arrest.)

Extraditions of Mexicans already granted pending an amparo (all of them in drug trafficking related crimes).

Date on which the extradition was granted by the Secretary of State of Mexico. Tirzo Angel Robles, 02/28/97; Jaime Arturo Ladino, 09/04/97; Juan Ángel Salinas, 12/16/97; Everardo Arturo Páez, 05/04/98; Florentino Blanco, 05/08/98; and José de Jesús Amezcua, 12/10/98.

Mexican citizens tried under Article 4 of the Federal Penal Code (important cases).

Oscar Malherbe de León, Drug trafficking/criminal association; David Alex Alvarez, "Spooky"*, Homicide/illegal deprivation of freedom; José Eustaquio Chávez Laines*, Homicide/drug trafficking; Jaime González Castro, Drug trafficking; Gildardo Martínez López**, Money laundering; Carlos Escoto Alcalá**, Money laundering; Miguel Angel Barba Martin**, Money laundering; Jorge Milton Diaz**, Money laundering; José Sergio Calderón Fdz**, Money laundering; and Lionel Barajas, Homicide.

* Convicted.

** Operation Casablanca. At present in process.

BROWNSVILLE LETTER

Signed on July 2, 1998 between Attorney Generals Reno and Madrazo establishing commitments in order to improve cooperation and to regain confidence between both countries.

Based on the Letter, both countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding on procedures for cooperation regarding law enforcement activities.

Likewise, authorities of Mexico and the U.S. have been working on effectiveness

measures for a bilateral, objective, transparent, and balanced evaluation of the efforts of both countries in the fight against drug trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is important to acknowledge, as frustrated as I and other Members are with Mexico, the fact is they are attempting to make progress. Now that is different from saying that they have made progress. Yes, they have continued to eradicate marijuana, they have fallen behind some in some of their efforts for interdiction on cocaine, and we need those efforts back up. They have not extradited people that we have asked to be extradited, but they have started the process to extradite.

But there are a couple of facts that make this a very difficult vote should it come to that here in Congress. One is, for all the current plans and efforts that they have done in this past year, there are a couple of irrevocable facts. One is, their drug czar was living in an apartment owned by one under the name of one cartel member. Through that compromised drug czar, who was actually on the take from the cartel, potentially every single source we have in Mexico was compromised.

It is going to be very difficult to rebuild a relationship of trust when you have potentially blown every single source you have worked to develop over decades when they have the brother of the President being involved in the assassination of a presidential candidate, when they have people high up in their military, we learn that they are on the take from the drug cartel.

These are not little low-level occasional problems. When we have the DEA unable to go into regional parts of their country, we have substantive problems we have to address with Mexico.

The North American Free Trade Agreement, often referred to along the border and in other parts of the country as the North American Free Drug Trading Act, is something that has opened up the borders, and we have to get control of those borders. But we must not forget much of what we know about the corruption in the Mexican government is because leaders of Mexico have in fact identified those leaders for us and acknowledged that they have to clean it up. The fact is they have started and have proposals on the table to work through extradition, to work through rebuilding their navy. We need a maritime agreement, but one of their comebacks to us is, as my colleagues know: Your government never asked us to sign the maritime agreement.

Part of our argument in Congress is with our own administration, and it is tough to put all the blame on Mexico. I say that as somebody who, for my 4 years here in Congress, has been steadily pounding on Mexico because I believe they have not been aggressive

enough in drug enforcement. I have had several amendments related to Mexico, and I am not certain how I am going to vote. But it is not a clear-cut case, and we need to continue to encourage the current government.

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to reclaim the 5-minute special order of the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DIAZ-BALART).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

LIBERALS THINK WASHINGTON KNOWS HOW TO SPEND AMERICANS' MONEY BETTER THAN THEY DO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SCARBOROUGH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to compliment the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GEKAS) on his plan. It is something that we have supported since 1995 and had the President and also Members of this Chamber on the left supported the same thing. Then when the President vetoed the nine appropriation bills in 1995 that shut down the government, that could have been avoided. I hope that we will be willing to do that in the future.

I was very, very interested to hear our Democratic friends talk about fiscal responsibility and talking about how the saying went that the balanced budget has no constituency. Mr. Speaker, I can tell my colleagues one person that cared about it in 1993 while he was sitting on the couch watching C-Span in the summer in Pensacola, Florida, was myself.

I remember in 1993 watching the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH) and a band of young Republican conservatives come to this floor and fight the President and the liberal left's plans to pass the largest tax increase in the history of this Republic. See, their vision of America then and now has been that if we want to balance the budget, the only way we can do it is by raiding the pockets of taxpayers.

In fact, we had some insight on this about a month ago when the President went up to Buffalo, New York, and he told the people in the audience that we really have to avoid this idea that the Republicans have that we are going to cut taxes. The President said to that Buffalo audience:

We could give you money back and hope that you spend it on the right things, but we cannot trust you, basically.

As my colleagues know, what a vision for America. What a sad, tired, worn-out vision for America. It is a vision that is radically different from what the Republican party believes.

GOP, as far as I believe, stands for government of the people. We believe people know how to spend their money better than bureaucrats in Washington, D.C. That is why I ran for office in 1994. I saw the President's budget and the Democrats' budget that passed without a single Republican vote, and I saw that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH) and the rest of the Republicans laid out a blueprint, and we said:

Let us balance the budget in 7 years, and if we balance the budget in 7 years, then the economy will explode.

Now the President said that we could not do this because this would destroy the economy, and how many liberals did I hear come to the floor and speak into this microphone and tell the American people if we tried to balance the budget in 7 years, the economy would be wrecked? Boy, talk about a rewriting of history. Now they talk about the Clinton recovery?

I remember Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Fed, testifying before the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. KASICH's) committee, and he said:

If you guys and ladies will only pass this balanced budget plan, you will see interest rates go down, you will see unemployment go down, and you will see one of the largest peace-time economic expansions in the history of our country.

That is what Alan Greenspan said. And do my colleagues know what? It is a good thing we listened to the economic intelligence of Alan Greenspan instead of the demagoguery that came from the other end of Pennsylvania Avenue, because we stayed the course, we fought the good fight, and we took a deficit from \$300 billion when we got here in 1995 down to a point where it is almost balanced.

Mr. Speaker, the news only gets better. We find out this past week that the CBO is now saying:

If Congress and the President do nothing, then the \$5.4 trillion debt that threatens my children's economic future and all of America's economic future will virtually be eradicated in 15 years.

But the question is:

Can the President and those on the left leave well enough alone?

See, we have got these horrible little things called budget caps, a road map for fiscal responsibility, and they think this is a bad thing. In fact, the President sees his only way out is by doing what he did in 1993 and what Democrats have done for 40 years. He says, let us take it from the American people; they do not know how to spend their money. Let us raise taxes by billions and billions of dollars. That is in the President's budget. That is the President's plan.

My gosh, if we talk about cutting taxes, how about cutting taxes for Americans that make from 45 to \$60,000? Raising the threshold? What if we talk about cutting capital gains taxes that actually helps so many Americans, helps grow the economy? They say that is a bad thing. I disagree.

Unlike the liberals, I still believe Americans know how to spend their money better than Washington, D.C.

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. SCHAFFER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be joined in this special order with a number of Republican colleagues, two from my home State of Colorado and one from the great State of Michigan, and I would invite other members of our conference to come join us as well as we spend a little bit of time sharing with each other and with our colleagues on the opposite side of the aisle and indeed the American people the values and beliefs that we stand for and that we, as a Republican party, hope to move forward on the floor of the House.

Among those are key objectives of this session: tax relief for the American people, a strong national defense, a world-class education system, and Social Security reform in a way that guarantees and safeguards the Social Security system.

Mr. Speaker, part of that discussion also entails some international issues that I know at least one Member is prepared to talk about, and with that I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TANCREDO) who had a unique experience with one of his elementary schools in his district that I think all of us would benefit learning more about.

□ 1330

Mr. TANCREDO. I thank the gentleman. It truly was. Of the 25 or more years that I have spent in public life, this was perhaps the most significant and most moving experience I think I have had.

I visited a class, a fourth and fifth grade class at Highline Community School in my district. It is a public school in the Cherry Creek School District. Why this school is unique, and it certainly is unique, and that is a word that gets thrown around a lot, oftentimes misused, because it really means nothing else like it. But I can use it appropriately and correctly in describing this particular school.

Actually, this particular class and their teacher, Mrs. Vogel, about a year

ago this class studied or actually had to just read a little tract that was discussing the situation in the Sudan, particularly the situation of slavery in the Sudan.

The Sudan, as we know, is a troubled country with a history of civil war now that has gone on for about 8 or 10 years that has cost almost 2 million lives. More people have died in this struggle than in any war since World War II. This is absolutely amazing that we pay so little attention to it. That was really the concern raised by the students and the teacher.

They said, how can this be happening? How can slavery be happening in this day and age, medieval slavery be occurring in the world someplace today, and nobody knows or no one cares? So they set about to do something about it. They started an organization that they now call STOP.

It has now become an international organization, and, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that this fourth and fifth grade classroom of Mrs. Vogel's has now raised over \$100,000 worldwide, and has redeemed, has purchased freedom, for over 1,000 people in the Sudan. It is an absolutely incredible story. This classroom has done more for human rights in the Sudan than this administration, I assure the Members, than this government, has done.

They are not finished yet. When I was there on Monday, they had just received a fax copy of a front page article that appeared in a Tokyo newspaper about this class. It is truly an extraordinary situation. I brought them a flag, and each one of the students in the class had written me a note. I have introduced them into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. But I want to keep talking about this, Mr. Speaker, because few other people are. This is a land that needs our attention.

I am on the Committee on International Relations. We had the Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, in a week ago to discuss foreign policy issues. As it turns out, in a half-hour presentation, in a 30-page written document about foreign policy, every foreign policy issue we have, every country was named where we have an interest, where there is a concern, except for one. I scanned it thoroughly to watch for it, to look for it. Not one time was there a mention of the Sudan. There are horrendous things happening there that need to be brought to the attention of the American public. The attention is being brought by classrooms like this one; no, in fact, just this classroom. I wish there were more, and there will be before we get done with this.

Mr. SCHAFFER. It is a remarkable example of what a classroom can be, given the liberty and freedom to teach under the direction of a professional educator. For those students in particular, they are getting quite an education in international affairs, about