

RELEASED IN FULL

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ACTION INM-07

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-07 SS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-01
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PM-10 PA-02 OMB-01 INRE-00 USIE-00 SP-02 SNP-01
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O 101924Z APR 89
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2224
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
DEAHQS WASHDC
AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MAZATLAN PRIORITY

UNCLAS MEXICO 08993

E.O 12356: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PGOV, PINS, MX, US
SUBJECT: MEXICAN AUTHORITIES ARREST MAJOR TRAFFICKER
MIGUEL ANGEL FELIX GALLARDO

1. MEXICAN FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE (MFJP) AGENTS
ARRESTED MIGUEL ANGEL FELIX GALLARDO, MEXICO'S NOTORIOUS
DRUG MAFIA BOSS, AT HIS HOME IN GUADALAJARA ON
SATURDAY, APRIL 8. HE HAS BEEN SOUGHT BY MEXICAN
AUTHORITIES FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING SINCE 1971. FELIX
GALLARDO IS BELIEVED TO BE THE HEAD OF THE SO-CALLED
"GUADALAJARA CARTEL," MEXICO'S MOST IMPORTANT DRUG RING
AND THE GROUP RESPONSIBLE FOR THE 1985 MURDER OF DEA
AGENT ENRIQUE CAMARENA. HE WAS ALSO REPUTED TO BE THE
MEDELLIN'S CARTEL CONNECTION IN MEXICO. ACCORDING TO
THE PRESS, NO SHOTS WERE FIRED DURING FELIX GALLARDO'S
CAPTURE, ALTHOUGH HE HAD SEVERAL HIGH-CALIBER WEAPONS
AND 40 GRAMS OF COCAINE IN HIS POSSESSION. FOUR OTHER
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DRUG SUSPECTS WERE ALSO ARRESTED WITH HIM. THE 43-YEAR-
OLD NATIVE OF CULIACAN, SINALOA WAS ARRAIGNED IN MEXICO
CITY ON APRIL 9, HAVING BEEN FLOWN HERE IN A MILITARY
AIRCRAFT.

2. IN A SIMULTANEOUS AND RELATED ACTION IN CULIACAN,
SINALOA ON SATURDAY NIGHT, APRIL 8, UNITS OF THE MEXICAN
ARMY LED BY NINTH MILITARY ZONE COMMANDER, MAJOR GENERAL
JESUS GONZALEZ REBOLLO, ARRESTED MORE THAN 600 MEMBERS
OF THE CULIACAN MUNICIPAL POLICE AND THE SINALOA STATE
JUDICIAL POLICE FOR PROTECTING DRUG TRAFFICKERS AND
CORRUPTION. AMONG THOSE ARRESTED BY THE ARMY AND HANDED
OVER TO THE MFJP WERE: ROBESPIERRE LIZARRAGA CORONEL,

REVIEW AUTHORITY: James Cooper, Senior Reviewer

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY OF CULIACAN, AND THE CHIEF OF THE STATE JUDICIAL POLICE, ARTURO MORENO. BOTH SUSPECTS WERE TRANSPORTED TO MEXICO CITY FOR THEIR ARRAIGNMENT. SEVERAL OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THE MAYOR OF CULIACAN, WERE HELD FOR QUESTIONING AND LATER RELEASED.

3. EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER DETAILS FOLLOWING ATTORNEY GENERAL ALVAREZ'S NOON PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY. (DRAFTED:POL:WHMOORE). GAMBLE

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