

DRUGS

Mexico supplies

40% of U.S. heroin - SE Asia became largest supplier in 1990
30% of U.S. marijuana - single largest supplier of marijuana

Mexican transit

1/3 of U.S. cocaine MS (none grown in Mex)

U.S. Consumption

Marijuana - 33% of U.S. population have used it once - 18 million users

Cocaine - 12% of U.S. population have used it once - 5 million users

Heroin - addicts concentrated in inner city - 0.5 million users

Cocaine is "drug of choice" - small volume, high price and profits, stronger effect

Trends in Mexican supply

Marijuana - 1975 - 90% from Mexico

1981 - 4% from Mexico Most successful U.S. and Mex. efforts

1985-86 - 30% from Mexico

Heroin - 1972 - 10-15% from Mexico

1975 - 87% from Mex. French connection ended

1980s - 40% from Mex. Asian supplies increase

Economics

Producing country receives only 8% (8 cents on the dollar) of drug income (this is for cultivation, refining, and transit to exit port.)

Demand is somewhat elastic - can be affected by price increases

Policies

1969 - Nixon had "Operation Intercept," three-week effort to search everyone crossing border.

1975 - Mexico increases its own interdiction and eradication efforts. From 1975-82, U.S. provided \$100 million for Mexican effort and Mexico provided \$300-400 million. Over 25% of Mexico's 100,000 soldiers are periodically used to destroy cultivation. Mexico was very successful in mid '70s in eradication efforts in key states of Sinaloa, Durango, and Chihuahua. Drug mafioso moved to Guadalajara. *mafioso*

Transition in 1982 from LP to DLM slowed eradication efforts. Also DLM's long-due overhaul of police set back anti-drug efforts.

Mexican effort: 20-25% of 125,000-man army involved in combatting drugs; 1/3 of the defense budget; 1/2 of the Atty. Grat's. budget; 40+ Mexican officials died.

Sept. '88, see below

Salinas
Salinas steps up efforts,

Early '89 - Asst. Atty. Grat, Javier Cuello Trejo heads anti-drug efforts - says drug budget up 174%. He will command a 1200-man elite squad of the Federal Judicial Police. Spent \$40 million recently on a "radar screen" along southern border.

March '89 - Miguel Nazar Haro resigned as head of intelligence for Mexico City police - has been indicted in U.S. for car theft and mentioned in drug-trafficking.

April '89 - Miguel Angel Felix Gallardo - leading trafficker - arrested in Guadalajara along with chief of police and 600 police in Culiacas, capital of Sinaloa and long headquarters of drug trafficking. In addition to Gallardo, Rafael Caro Quintero and Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo (both now in custody) lived here.

Dec. '89 - Caro Quintero and Fonseca Carrillo sentenced to long prison terms in Camarena case and deprived of lush prison amenities.

September '88 - Rafael Caro Quintero and Ernesto Fonseca Carrillo sentenced to 34 and 11 year sentences, respectively, in marijuana cultivating case. Their trial in the Camarena case is ongoing. *na*

Certification

Problems

1979 - use of Paraquat in Mexico for eradication. U.S. prohibits use of its funds for Paraquat - Mexico continues using it.

Camarena - 1985 (February 7)

February '86 - U.S. obtains tape of Camaerna being tortured. Three months later Helms hearing held.

August '86 - Reagan and DLM met in D.C. to limit damage. Former police official sentenced for allowing Quintero to escape. But DEA agent, Victor Cortez, was arrested and allegedly tortured in Guadalajara.

April 1987 - difficulty over Mexican certification

April 1988 - Senate voted 63-27 against President's recommendation to certify Mexican drug control efforts. U.S. legislature requires the President to certify annually whether drug-producing countries are cooperating in curtailing drug producing and trafficking. Failure to certify results in suspension of U.S. foreign assistance, trade preferences, and support for international loans.

January 1988 - indictments in San Diego of three high-ranking Mexican army officers for drug trafficking.

Summer 1988 - U.S. National Guard units first deployed in anti-drug efforts at seven major border points.

January 1990 - NBC program on Camarena story

February 1990 - U.S. indicts 19 Mexicans in Camarena killing, including former director of Mex Federal Judicial Police and former director of Interpol in Mexico. Mexico has jailed 20 in Camarena case (including Caro Quintero and Fonseca Carrillo) and has considered the case closed.

April 1990 - Mexican Dr. (Alvarez Machain) abducted in Mexico, flown to El Paso, and arrested by DEA in Camarena case (was one of those indicted in February). Mexico protests strongly and arrests six Mexicans for the abduction.

Mexican Complaints

All U.S. demand

Drugs not a problem in Mexico

Major drug is cocaine and is not even grown in Mexico - most cocaine comes in through Florida and east coast ports

Mexico became major supplier of drugs in 1940s when induced by U.S. government to develop supply of morphine and hemp for U.S. market

U.S. Complaints

Mexican corruption

Lack of cooperation

Mexico major supplier of heroin and marijuana