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THE NEW YORK TIMES TUESDAY FEBRUARY 12, 1981

U.S. Drug Agent Kidnapped

By RICHARD J. MEISLIN

Special to The New York Times

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 11 — The United States Embassy announced today that an agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration had been kidnapped in the western Mexico city of Guadalajara. The kidnapers were believed to be involved in drug trafficking in Mexico.

The kidnapping was the first of a United States narcotics agent in Mexico since the two countries began the current phase of a joint anti-drug effort in 1975.

But last October the car of a Drug Enforcement Administration agent in Guadalajara was riddled with bullets by an unidentified person wielding a machine gun outside his home. No injuries or arrests were reported in that incident.

A spokesman said there had been no ransom demand from or other contact with the kidnapers. The United States Ambassador, John Gavin, said in a statement that neither the United States nor Mexico would be "intimidated by mafia thugs" into reducing the joint anti-drug effort.

Embassy Offers Reward

The embassy said it was offering a reward of \$50,000 for information leading to the whereabouts of the agent, Enrique Camarena Salazar, who disappeared shortly after leaving the United

States Consulate in Guadalajara at about 2:30 P.M. last Thursday.

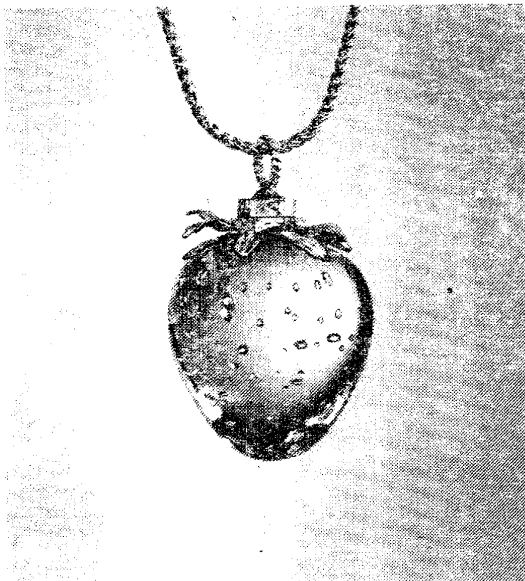
A spokesman for the United States Embassy said that a witness had reported having seen Mr. Camarena Salazar being forced into a car by four armed men.

Mr. Camarena Salazar, who is 37 years old, is a Mexican-born naturalized United States citizen. He has been with the Drug Enforcement Administration since 1974 and has been stationed in Guadalajara since 1980. He is married and has three children.

A spokesman for the Mexican Attorney General's office, Francisco Fonseca, said he could report only that "state and federal judicial police are investigating" Mr. Camarena Salazar's disappearance.

A high-ranking Mexican official said the Mexican Government had become increasingly concerned in recent months over intelligence indicating a growth of drug-related activities in the Guadalajara area. The city, Mexico's second largest, is a short distance from the western coastal state of Sinaloa, one of the country's most active areas in the production of illegal drugs.

The official added that the most unusual thing about the incident was, "frankly, that he was kidnapped — they usually just kill them."

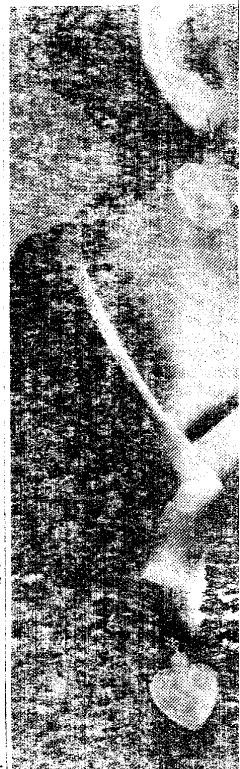


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CLEARANCE SALE



Symbolic of dangling...

Militant Sikhs had called for Gandhi's ouster for ordering the army to invade the temple to evict militants fighting for independence in their homeland. More than 600 people, most of them Sikhs, were killed in the two-day battle.

The police document said the conspirators completed their plan only a day before the slaying. Gandhi was shot to death by two Sikh bodyguards as she walked from her home Oct. 31.

The charge sheet named as the gunmen Gandhi's two Sikh body-

guards. The government has denied western news reports of people being physically forced to join its resettlement program, which moves people from drought areas in the north to fertile areas in the south and west. The government spokesmen have said any incidents were merely local disturbances that police had been forced to quell.

"We have resumed distributing aid at the Wahreb-Saharti camp" near Makale in Tigre province, a spokeswoman said in response to inquiries. "That is good news."

She said the Ethiopian government had not yet responded to a request for an explanation of last Tuesday's incident, during which, the Red

cross notified it that an investigation of the Wahreb-Saharti incident was under way.

They feared that church-stations might deteriorate further in the short term, but that mutual interests would appear to make a scale crisis unlikely at present.

"Jaruzelski isn't strong enough to get along without the church," noted an eastern political analyst who declined to be quoted by name.

Exactly what caused the movement to begin its anti-church campaign midway through the month-long Popieluszko trial remains unclear. Some believe it was pressure from Soviet propaganda that arrived in Warsaw shortly after the trial began in late December. Others believe it was pressure from church leaders within Jaruzelski's own ranks who demanded the anti-church campaign as the price for putting police officers on open trial. During the trial, the chief prosecutor frequently digressed to attack the church. At one point he attempted to equate Father Popieluszko's anti-government stance with his murder, stating, "Extremism leads to a crime."

Three Western reporters, Polish religious affairs minister, Andrzej Patka, warned that the government would not hesitate to arrest priests engaged in what he called "criminal activities."

Drug agent believed kidnapped

From Inquirer Wire Services

MEXICO CITY — A U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency official was believed kidnapped in Guadalajara by drug traffickers last week, and the U.S. Embassy said yesterday that it was offering a \$50,000 reward for information on his whereabouts.

"If the kidnapers hope to deter cooperative efforts of the United States and Mexico to rid our citizens of drug trafficking, they are mistaken," U.S. Ambassador John Gavin said. "Neither this mission nor our governments will be intimidated by Mafia thugs."

A U.S. Embassy spokeswoman said the DEA official, Enrique Camarena Salazar, 37, a naturalized American

citizen, was kidnapped Thursday afternoon in Guadalajara, 300 miles northwest of Mexico City.

Witnesses told authorities that four armed men pulled up beside Camarena, forced him into the back of a car and sped off.

The embassy spokeswoman said that the kidnapers had not made contact with U.S. or Mexican government officials and that no ransom demands had been received.

In Washington, DEA spokesman Robert Feldkamp said Camarena was leaving his office to meet his wife, Geneva, for lunch when he was abducted. The DEA believes that the four kidnapers are drug traffickers because Camarena was working as

part of a U.S. effort to stop the flow of drugs into the United States, Feldkamp said.

U.S. drug enforcement officials have worked in close contact with the Mexican government in a program to end the growing of marijuana and opium poppies and to reduce heroin and cocaine traffic across the 1,900-mile border.

U.S. officials have been threatened in their work in Mexico, U.S. diplomats in Mexico City said, but this appeared to be the first kidnapping.

Camarena, a native of Mexico and father of three, has been with the DEA since 1974. In 1980 he was assigned to the agency's office in Guadalajara.

The Philadelphia Inquirer / 12 Feb 85 - TUESDAY

Violence Increases

U.S. Agents Target of Assaults

By Mary Thornton
Washington Post Staff Writer

U.S. law-enforcement officials have expressed fear that last week's kidnaping of a Drug Enforcement Administration agent in Guadalajara, Mexico, may be part of a pattern of increasing assaults on U.S. targets by drug traffickers throughout Latin America.

Agent Enrique Camarena Salazar, 37, a Mexican-born naturalized American with nearly 11 years' experience at the DEA, was abducted in midafternoon last Thursday as he left his office to have lunch with his wife. An eyewitness has told DEA investigators that he was grabbed by four armed men and thrown face down into the back of a car.

U.S. law-enforcement officials said that Camarena, who had a broad working knowledge of DEA operations and continuing investigations in Latin America, may have been tortured and murdered, but they offered no specifics.

The kidnaping was the most recent of several acts of violence by Latin American drug traffickers against U.S. enforcement efforts, which have been sharply increased in the last three years. Law-enforcement officials said they are particularly concerned about the attacks because of violence rou-

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THE WASHINGTON POST

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Latin America Drug Violence Seen Rising

DEA, From A1

inely used by the traffickers, including brutal murders of wives and children of targets. In February 1982, two DEA agents were kidnaped by drug traffickers in Cartagena, Colombia, shot repeatedly and left for dead. Both survived.

Last Oct. 10, a DEA agent's car was machine-gunned in Guadalajara. At that time, DEA security in Mexico was increased, and agents were ordered to be especially vigilant.

On Nov. 26, one woman was killed in a car bombing outside the U.S. Embassy in Bogota, Colombia, that authorities said they believed was carried out by drug traffickers.

Last December, the Colombian government completed plans to extradite four alleged drug traffickers to the United States for trial under a new treaty between the two governments.

About that time, DEA and other intelligence sources received reports that a three-man hit team had been dispatched from Colombia and was targeting federal narcotics agents for kidnaping, torture and murder. The plans also included the possible bombing of DEA offices, the reports said.

Federal law-enforcement sources said that they see no link between the Camarena kidnaping and the alleged Colombian hit squad but that the men who abducted Camarena in Guadalajara are believed to be major traffickers of marijuana and cocaine. The sources said the men are believed to be based in the Guadalajara area but working with drug traffickers elsewhere in Latin America.

Authorities said the situation in Guadalajara is seen as so serious that more than 40 agents are in that



REUTER/UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

DEA Administrator Francis Mullen speaking in U.S. Embassy in Mexico City as U.S. Ambassador John Gavin looks on.

area handling the investigation and that DEA Administrator Francis M. (Bud) Mullen Jr. flew to Mexico last Sunday to oversee the operation. He returned last night, but nothing further was announced.

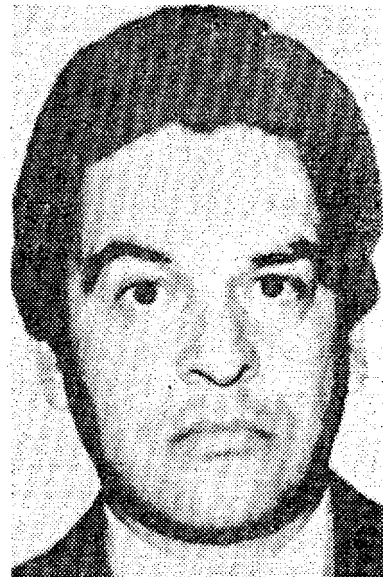
Since December, DEA offices and many other federal buildings, including courthouses, have been under extremely tight security throughout the United States. Intelligence sources said the alleged hit team left Colombia, but federal sources said they do not know whether the team has entered this country.

Federal law-enforcement sources said the team is believed to consist of three men, not drug traffickers but hired by Carlos Lehder, a Colombian citizen wanted on three U.S. drug-trafficking indictments and believed hiding in Colombia.

Lehder has claimed to be a member of M19, a left-wing Colombian terrorist group.

Deputy DEA Administrator John C. Lawn said yesterday, "Acts of violence, threats of violence are a clear indication that the pressure we're bringing to bear on traffickers is having an effect and that they're responding the only way they know how—by trying to provoke fear and intimidation.

"We have taken precautions in all overseas posts, we have established special working guidelines for our people," he said. "But the nature of our work and the sometimes corrupting environment makes absolute security of personnel impossible. But if traffickers are using fear and intimidation to test our mettle, they're going to find we test well."



ENRIQUE CAMARENA SALAZAR
... DEA agent abducted in Mexico