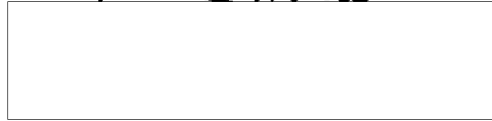




Director of
Central
Intelligence

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CIA | CPAS --- | NIDC 85-180C ---

National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
13 August 1985



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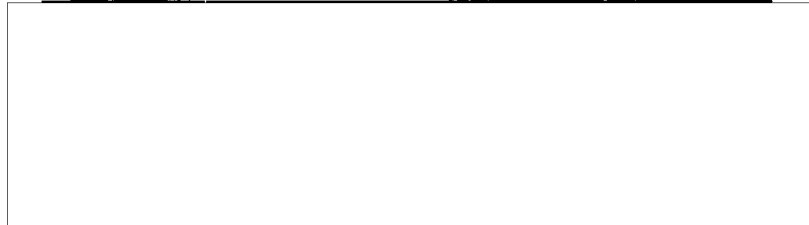
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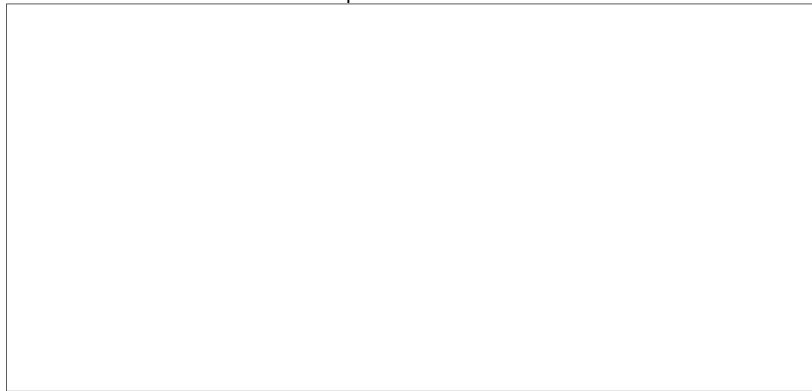
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Mexico: Continued Rise in Opium Production

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[Redacted]

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MEXICO: Continued Rise in Opium Production

The marked resurgence in opium production that began last year appears to have continued during the first half of 1985 and almost certainly will result in even larger exports of heroin to the US. Preliminary analysis [Redacted] conducted in February indicates the total harvest will approach 45 tons, compared to about 30 tons in 1984 and under 20 tons in 1983. Nearly all the opium is refined into heroin that is smuggled into the US; this year it will account for as much as 40 percent of US consumption, as compared to some 30 percent in recent years. [Redacted]

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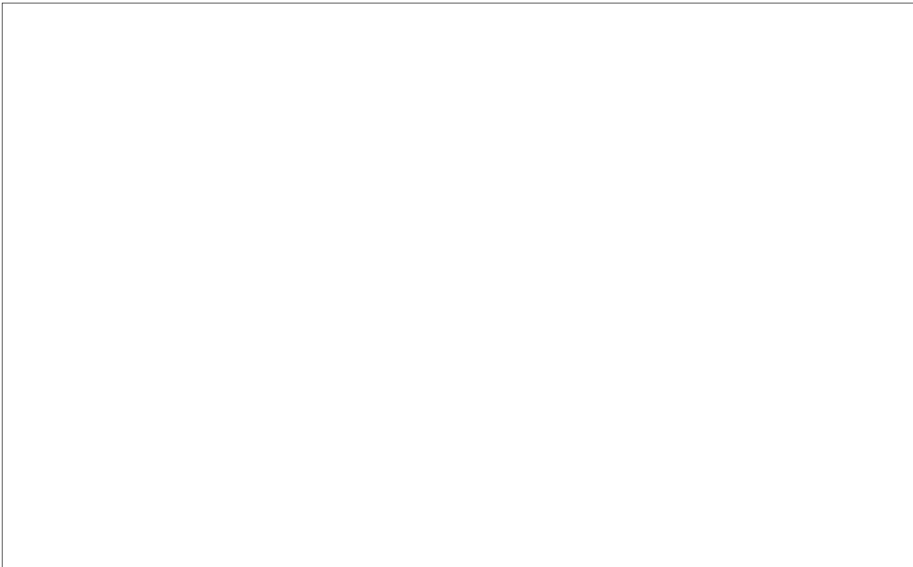
Comment: Mexico's once-successful opium eradication program continues to be hampered by economic problems, which limit funds and equipment. [Redacted] President de la Madrid is committed to working with the US to improve the situation, but the changes he has made during the past year have not been adequate to regain the initiative. If Mexico City does not take adequate measures, opium production could increase again next year—and could rival the peak levels of 10 years ago. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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