

ACTION WHA-00

INFO LOG-00 EEB-00 VCI-00 A-00 RPPR-00 ACQ-00 INL-00
 DODE-00 PDI-00 DS-00 AVC-00 UTED-00 SIPD-00 DIAS-00
 TEDE-00 INR-00 L-00 MOFM-00 MOF-00 VCIE-00 NSAE-00
 ISN-00 NSCE-00 OES-00 OMB-00 PA-00 PM-00 PRS-00
 P-00 ISNE-00 SP-00 SS-00 TRSE-00 T-00 ASDS-00
 BBG-00 IIP-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 LBA-00 DRL-00 G-00
 SAS-00 /000W

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O R 062237Z APR 11
 FM AMCONSUL MATAMOROS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0421
 INFO ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO COLLECTIVE
 WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
 HQ BICE INTEL WASHINGTON DC
 HQ NORAD USNORTHCOM INTEL PETERSON AFB CO
 ICE CORPUS CHRISTI TX
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 CIA WASHINGTON DC
 US CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION WASHINGTON DC
 FBI WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS MATAMOROS 000146

SENSITIVE
 SIPDIS

E.O. 13526: N/A
 TAGS: PGOV, PREL, ASEC, SNAR, KJUS, MX
 SUBJECT: Two Mass Graves Containing 48 Bodies Discovered in the San
 Fernando Area

REF: A) 10 MATAMOROS 226;

1. (SBU) On April 2 and 6 Mexican authorities uncovered two mass graves (narcofosas) containing 48 bodies, two reportedly wearing police uniforms, in the small community of La Joya near San Fernando in Tamaulipas (see map below). Some of the bodies are in an advanced state of decomposition and others appear to have died within the last 7-10 days. The Mexican Army (SEDENA) is in charge of the body recovery and PGR is handling the investigation, with Tamaulipas officials conducting autopsies and running DNA tests to assist in identifying the remains. Officials have yet to identify any of the victims.

2. (SBU) San Fernando, approximately 80 miles south of Matamoros on

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 REVIEW AUTHORITY: NORMAN M BOUTON
 DATE/CASE ID: 11 JUL 2011 201103281

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the road to Ciudad Victoria, has been the site of much Transnational Criminal Organization (TCO)-related violence. In August 2010 the bodies of 72 migrants, presumably murdered by the Los Zetas TCO, were discovered in San Fernando (Reftel A).

3. (SBU) Comment: The bodies are likely either TCO members, victims of TCO kidnappings, or victims of highway violence. According to official sources at least 24 people have been kidnapped from Tamaulipas highways in recent weeks, including a group pulled off an intercity bus on March 23. Post will work with Mexican authorities to determine if any of the victims are American citizens.

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BARKIN

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