

ACTION DS-00

INFO LOG-00 A-00 CA-00 CIAE-00 WHA-00 UTED-00 DIAS-00
 TEDE-00 L-00 ARMY-00 MOFM-00 MOF-00 OCS-00 DOHS-00
 ASDS-00 DSCC-00 SAS-00 /000W

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FM AMCONSUL MATAMOROS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0180

INFO ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO COLLECTIVE

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UNCLAS MATAMOROS 000228

E.O. 13526: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, CASC, MX

SUBJECT: Timeline of violent events occurring in Matamoros consular district August 22 -27, 2010

1. Below is a timeline of violent events occurring in Matamoros consular district August 22 -27, 2010.
2. August 22: Seventy-two migrants were executed on a ranch in San Fernando. As of 8/27 15 had been positively identified: eight Hondurans, four Salvadorans, two Guatemalans and one Brazilian. The Ecuadorian national who survived is still in a navy hospital and the unaccounted for female and child have not been located. See MATAMOROS 249
3. August 24: At approximately 1700 hours, Mexican authorities engaged armed cartel members in the city of Reynosa. Reports indicate two Mexican military (SEDENA) were killed along with four cartel members. SEDENA confirmed that a RPG was used by the cartel during the battle. Reports indicate that the gun battle occurred close to an industrial plant near the Reynosa - Monterrey highway. Roads around the city were blocked and city officials warned citizens to stay in their houses for safety.
4. August 24: A grenade was thrown at the Matamoros City Water Offices located two blocks from the Consulate. The building sustained minor damage but no injuries were reported. RSO, who lives near the CG, heard the explosion. The attack was close to the B&M International Bridge causing the temporary closure of the southbound lanes into Mexico. This is the 6th grenade attack in Matamoros in the last two weeks.
5. August 27: Mexican authorities report that a grenade attack occurred against the Department of Public Safety in the town of Valle Hermoso 10 km southeast of Matamoros at 2120 hours. The grenade damaged the building but no injuries were reported.

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6. August 27: At 0100 hours, a car bomb (VBIED) detonated on the street in front of the Mexican Televisa station in Tamaulipas's capital, Ciudad Victoria. Sources confirm that a red Chevy Corsica with Texas plates loaded with bottles of gas (most likely propane) exploded at the site. No injuries were reported but damage to the station's towers caused the station to go off the air temporary.

7. August 27: At 0110 hours, a car bomb (VBIED) detonated at the transit police in Ciudad Victoria. Sources confirm that a beige Mazda with Texas plates loaded with bottles of gas (most likely propane) exploded at the site. No injuries were reported but police property was damaged. U.S. ATF agents are on-scene to assist in the investigation. These attacks are the second and third VBIED attacks in Tamaulipas and the fourth in Mexico in the last 45 days. The first two occurred on July 15, in Ciudad Juarez, and August 5, inside the compound of the State police headquarters in Ciudad Victoria.

8. August 27: Mexican authorities are still searching for a possible mass grave containing up to two hundred migrants. The bodies are believed to be in canal in San Fernando near the "Las Yescas" Customs checkpoint between San Fernando and Matamoros.

9. August 27: It is believed, but not confirmed, that decapitated bodies found by Mexican authorities in Mendez 8/26 are of Roberto Jaime SUAREZ VASQUEZ, State Prosecutor in San Fernando (MPE) and Juan Carlos SANCHEZ SUAREZ, Director of the Municipal Police in San Fernando, who disappeared 8/25.

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