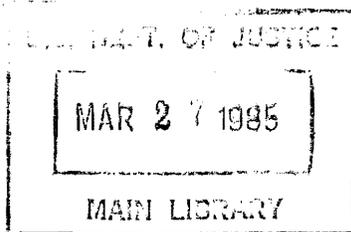




Department of Justice



JOINT STATEMENT FOLLOWING THE MEETING OF ATTORNEY
GENERAL EDWIN MEESE III AND MEXICAN ATTORNEY GENERAL SERGIO
GARCIA-RAMIREZ, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 1985

The Attorney General of Mexico, Sergio Garcia-Ramirez, met today in Washington with Attorney General Edwin Meese III, the ambassadors of their two countries, and other Department of Justice and State Department officials.

The two top law enforcement officials issued the following joint statement at the conclusion of their meetings:

" We have met today to address the serious problem of international narcotics trafficking, and the terrible effect that the drug trade has on both of our nations and on the international community as a whole. We, of course, also examined the difficulties we have encountered lately in our cooperative law enforcement effort; difficulties that we are resolved to overcome. Our meeting today recognized the many positive enforcement steps we have taken together and underscored our steadfast commitment to working together to combat this common enemy."

(MORE)

"In an open and cooperative spirit, we have addressed many issues today, including: eradication programs; initiatives to help combat narcotics trafficking; drug-related corruption; and the recent murder of DEA Special Agent Camarena. We have agreed to develop channels of communication for sharing information about corruption linked to drug trafficking and to take necessary actions to deal with this problem; to consider possible joint prosecutions between our two countries within our respective legal systems; and to cooperate fully in strengthening the eradication programs in Mexico."

"In addition, we decided that a Joint Law Enforcement Summit, held sometime this summer, would be in the interests of both nations. Further, we agreed to meet again in approximately 6 months time to review our mutual progress in this fight against narcotics trafficking."

Both Attorneys General emphasized that the discussions had been positive and fruitful, and reaffirmed that each stands committed to fight for the elimination of international narcotics trafficking.

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