



UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 02-03-2011 BY 65179/DMH/BAW/STP/bls

FBI Atlanta
Intelligence Note from Domain Management
Intelligence Related to MS-13 Threat
December 15, 2008

Approval: SIA [REDACTED]

b6
b7c

Subject: Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) presence and activity in the Atlanta Division

Summary: (U//FOUO) MS-13 has an active presence in the Atlanta Division's Area of Responsibility (AOR). Furthermore, MS-13 is assessed to be increasing in numbers throughout the state, though much of the gang's reported activity is centered in the Atlanta metro area.

Scope:

(U//FOUO) To identify the presence, activities, and overall threat posed by MS-13 to the Atlanta AOR.

(U//FOUO) To identify populations of immigrants within the Atlanta AOR that may be at a high risk for MS-13 recruitment.

(U//FOUO) The following data sets and products were reviewed in preparation of this report:

- 2000 US Census data regarding foreign born populations reporting El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras as their places of birth
- [REDACTED]
- Atlanta Division's MS-13 Threat Assessment (November 19, 2007)
- National Threat Assessment Initiate: Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) Threat to the United States (May 17, 2007)
- Open source research regarding MS-13 activity in the US
- Atlanta FBI source reporting, open investigations, and agent interviews

b7E

(U) Key Judgments:¹

¹ (U) High Confidence generally indicates that our judgments are based on high quality information and/or that the nature of the issue makes it possible to render a solid judgment. A "high confidence" judgment is not a fact or a certainty, however, and such judgments still carry a risk of being wrong.

(U) Medium Confidence generally means that the info is credibly sourced and plausible but not of sufficient quality or corroborated sufficiently to warrant a higher level of confidence.

(U) Low Confidence generally means that the information's credibility and/or plausibility is questionable, or that the information is too fragmented or poorly corroborated to make solid analytic inferences, or that we have significant concerns or problems with the source.

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

804H-AT-C104293 Serial 3

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

(U//FOUO) The Atlanta Domain Team assesses that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(U//FOUO) MS-13 is assessed to be [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [High Confidence]

(U//FOUO) MS-13 has [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] [Medium Confidence]

b7E

(U) Background:

(U//FOUO) According to open source reporting, the Mara Salvatrucha (aka MS-13) originated in the U.S. in Los Angeles, CA in the 1980s. The gang's initial membership consisted of Salvadoran refugees who had fled during the civil war in El Salvador. Since that time MS-13 has expanded its membership to include Guatemalan and Honduran nationals with current reports indicating some cliques accept members from other Latin American regions. MS-13 spread throughout Central America when Los Angeles gang members were deported back to El Salvador. While incarcerated they gained strength in the El Salvadoran prison system and proceeded to multiply all the while increasing their acts of violence. MS-13 has expanded its reach as far north as Canada and as far east as Spain with numbers continuing to grow. MS-13 is considered to be one of the most violent and rapidly growing transnational street gangs in the U.S.

(U) Details:

(U//FOUO) The members of MS-13 are primarily composed of persons with Salvadoran, Guatemalan, and Honduran decent. According to the 2000 Census data, the total population in the State of Georgia for the aforementioned countries was 30,451. The counties with the highest concentration of stated immigrants include: DeKalb, Gwinnett, Cobb, Fulton, Hall, Floyd, and Clayton.¹

Counties	Foreign-born Population: Place of Birth: El Salvador	Foreign-born Population: Place of Birth: Guatemala	Foreign-born Population: Place of Birth: Honduras	Total Foreign-born Population for El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras
DeKalb	1931	2925	2217	7073
Gwinnett	2753	2185	1020	5958
Cobb	1518	765	438	2721
Fulton	792	472	723	1987
Hall	935	193	192	1320
Floyd	134	1059	49	1242
Clayton	350	315	428	1093

(U) *It should be noted that data does not reflect population for illegal aliens.*

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Presence

(U//FOUO) Confidential Human Source (CHS) reporting indicates the [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted] Currently it does not appear that
 the [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]

b7D
b7E

Criminal Activity

(U) One aspect of MS-13 is its flexibility regarding criminal activity. While some gangs are only into drugs, MS-13 will do any crime at any time.²

(U//FOUO) The MS-13 cliques within the Atlanta Division's AOR have engaged in a number of criminal activities to include: ten or more murders, numerous armed robberies, shootings, and weapons/drug offenses.

(U//FOUO) According to Atlanta FBI/ICE agents, [redacted]
 [redacted]

b7E

(U//FOUO) Although reporting indicates that MS-13 members in the Atlanta AOR are
 [redacted]

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates that MS-13 members are [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]³ **Analyst Comment:** This may be an indication that MS-13 is [redacted]
 [redacted] **End comment.**

b7A
b7D
b7E

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting in [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]⁴

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates that [redacted]
 [redacted]
 [redacted]⁵

- (U//FOUO) Atlanta FBI/ICE agents indicate that [redacted]
[redacted]

b7E

(U) According to the Department of Homeland Security, deportation is a useful tool when there isn't enough evidence to prosecute a criminal case.⁶ However, many deportees are returning to the U.S.

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates that [redacted]
[redacted]⁷
- (U//FOUO) Several MS-13 members identified in the Atlanta AOR have [redacted]
[redacted]⁸

b7A
b7D

Recruitment

(U//FOUO) Georgia currently has [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted] within the Atlanta AOR. **Analyst Comment:** Based on the MS-13 history of recruitment in [redacted]
[redacted] within the Atlanta AOR. **End comment.**

b7E

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates that MS-13 members [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]⁹

b7A
b7D

(U//FOUO) Although traditional MS-13 recruitment is selective to persons of Salvadoran, Guatemalan, and Honduran decent, Atlanta has [redacted]
[redacted]

b7E

(U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates that [redacted]
[redacted]¹⁰

b7A
b7D

(U//FOUO) Unlike the [redacted] Atlanta metro has observed [redacted]
[redacted]

b7E

Expansion and Emerging Threat

(U//FOUO) National reporting indicates that [redacted]
[redacted]

b7E

[Redacted]

b7E

- (U//FOUO) Source reporting indicates an [Redacted]
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted] ¹¹ **Analyst Comment:** This indicates
 [Redacted]. **End comment.**

b7A
b7D
b7E

- (U//FOUO) Atlanta received information from the Charlotte Division regarding
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted] ¹²

b7A
b7E

- (U//FOUO) [Redacted]
 [Redacted] source reporting from [Redacted] indicate [Redacted]
 [Redacted] ¹³ **Analyst Comment:** [Redacted]
 [Redacted] **End comment.**

b7A
b7D
b7E

- (U//FOUO) Further FBI reporting indicates that [Redacted]
 [Redacted]
 [Redacted] ¹⁴ **Analyst Comment:** [Redacted]
 [Redacted] **End comment.**

(U) Recommendations:

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

b7E

(U) Intelligence Gaps:

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

b7E

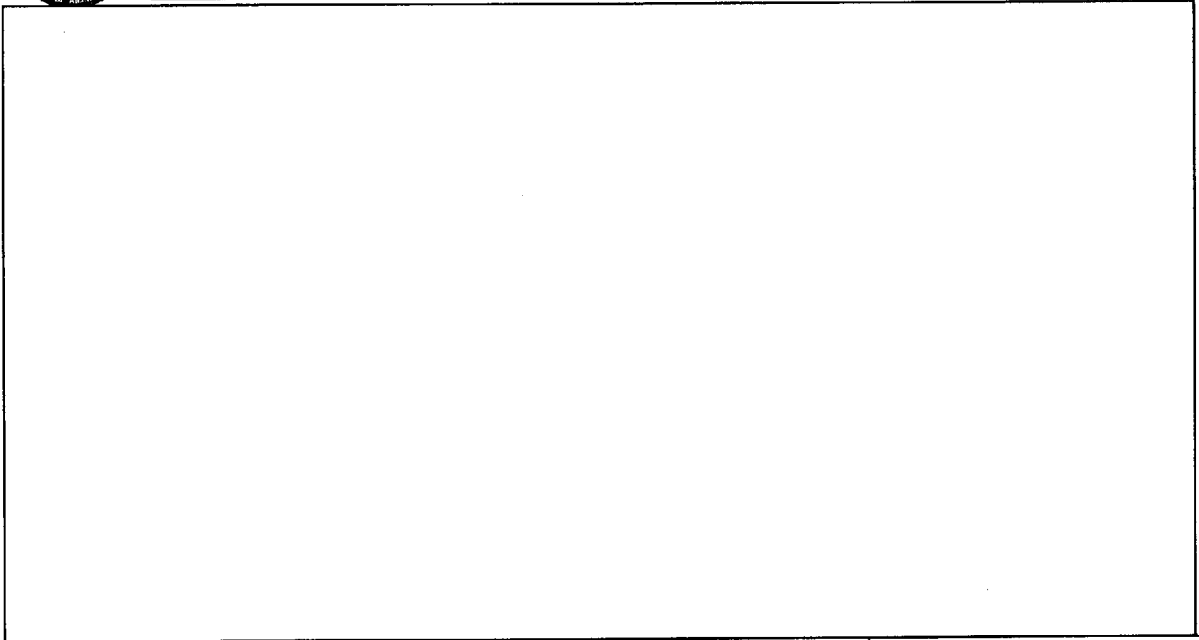
This intelligence summary was prepared by the Domain Team of the Atlanta Division.
Comments or questions may be addressed to SIA [Redacted] at [Redacted]

b6
b7C

(U) Endnotes

- ¹ (U) U.S. Census Bureau at <http://www.census.gov>
- ² Police Magazine, America's Most Dangerous Gang, available at <http://www.policemag.com>
- ³ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ⁴ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ⁵ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ⁶ CBS News, The fight Against MS-13, available at <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2005/12/01/60minutes>
- ⁷ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ⁸ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ⁹ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ¹⁰ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ¹¹ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ¹² (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ¹³ (U) FBI [Redacted]
- ¹⁴ (U) FBI [Redacted]

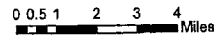
b7A



b7E

GEO: 33555N/841000W
15 December 2008

b6
b7C



Author: IA [redacted]

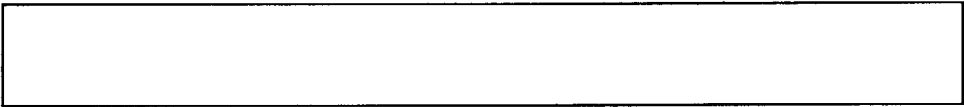
Source Comment: [redacted]

b7E

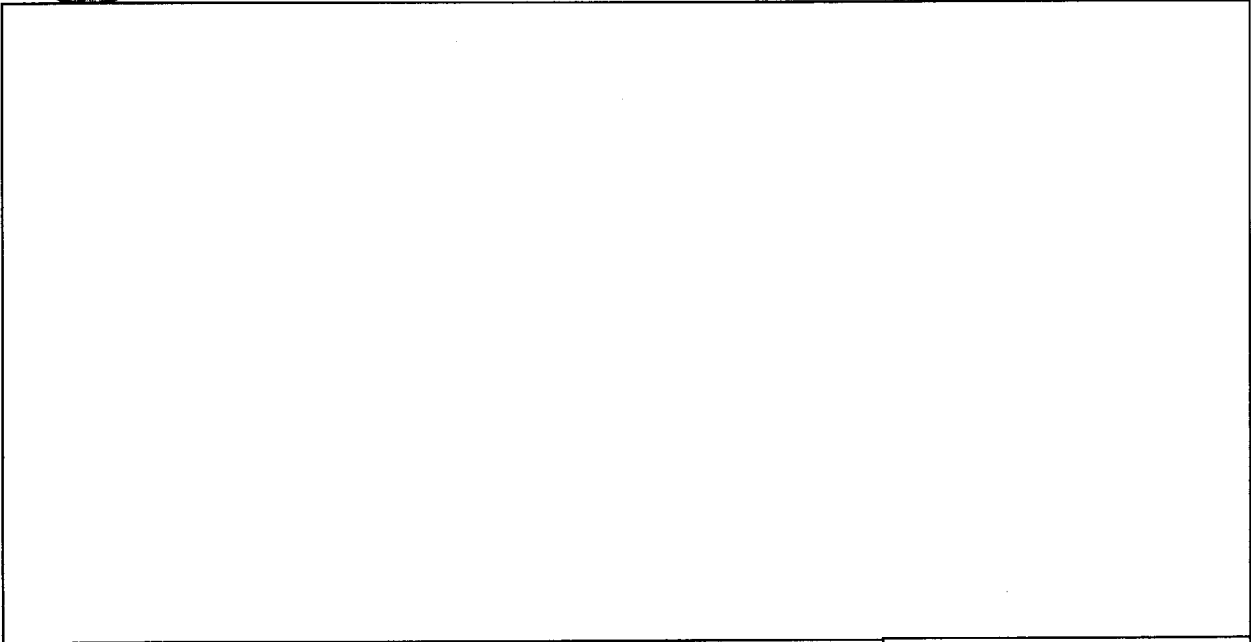
UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only



b7A

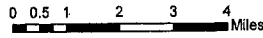


b7E



GEO: 333634N/8423503W
15 December 2008

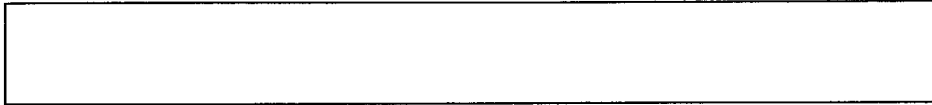
b6
b7C



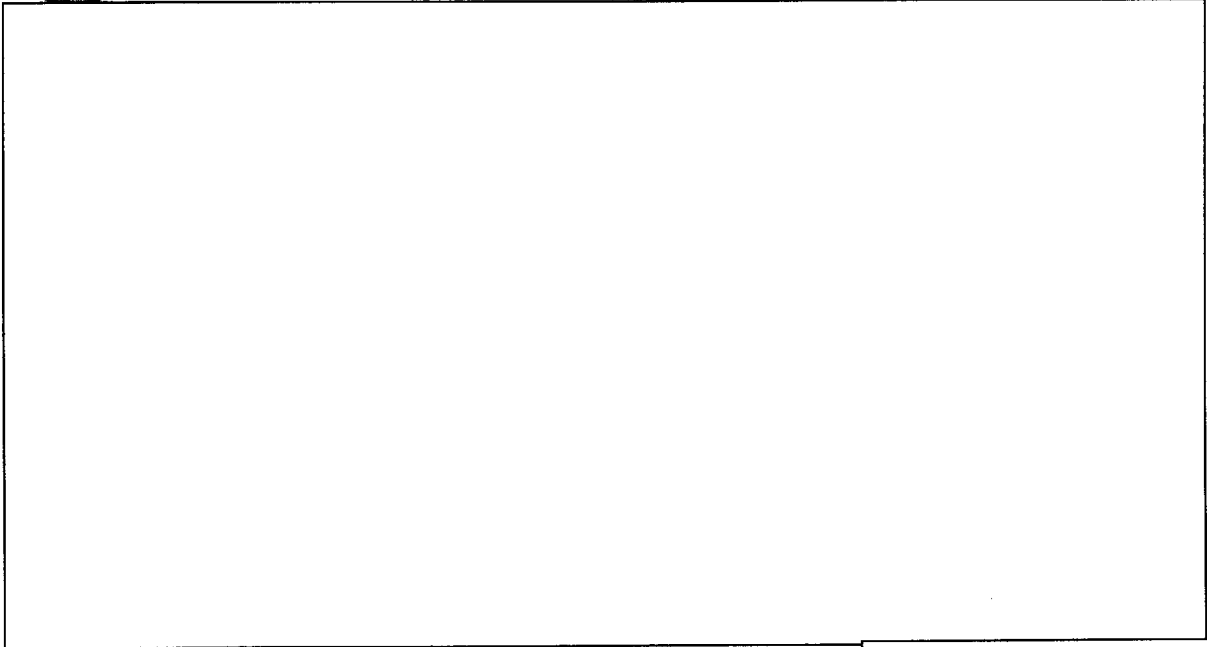
Author: IA [redacted]
Source Comment: [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only



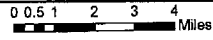


b7E



GEO: 335153N/843200W
15 December 2008

b6
b7c



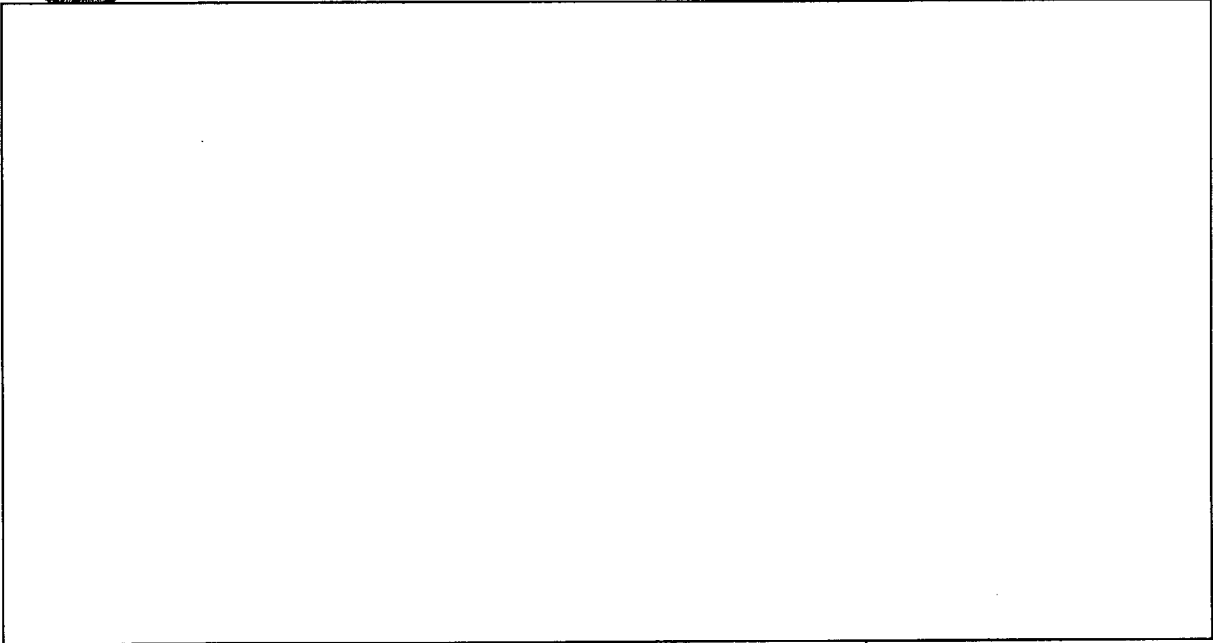
Author: IA [redacted]
Source Comment: [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only



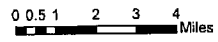


b7E

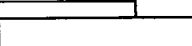


GEO: 322995N/8455518W
15 December 2008

b6
b7C



Author: IA
Source Comment

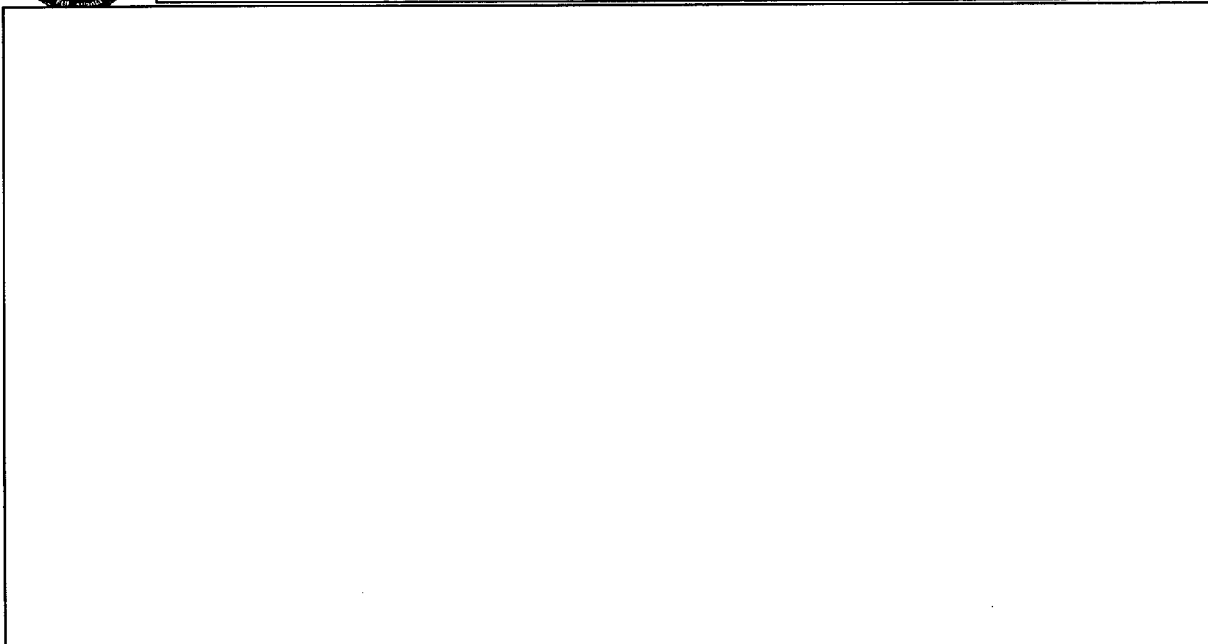


UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only

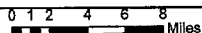




b7E



GEO: IVO 344656N/8455135W
15 December 2008

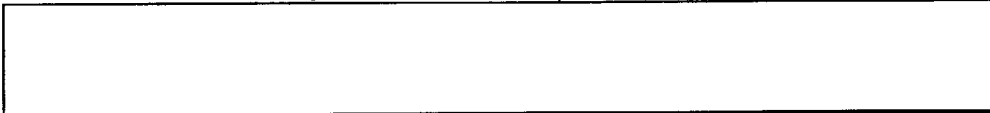


Author: IA [redacted]
Source Comment: 194 data not fully geocoded.

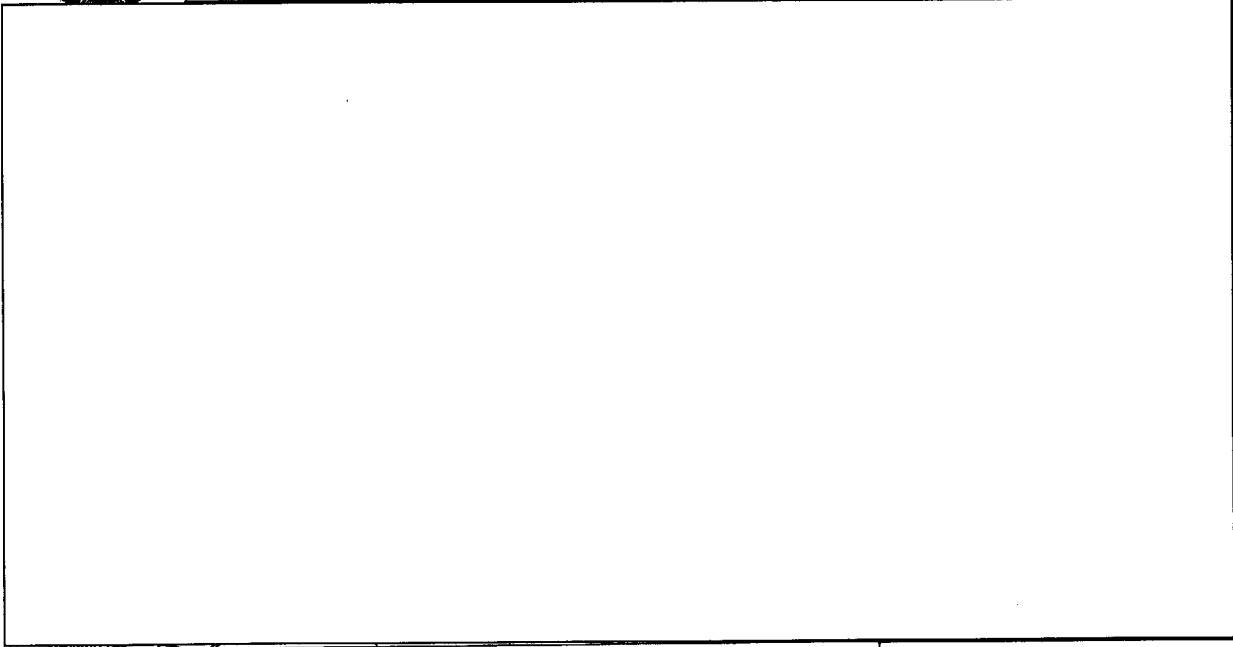
b6
b7c

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only

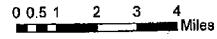




b7E



GEO: 341726N/8348190W
15 December 2008

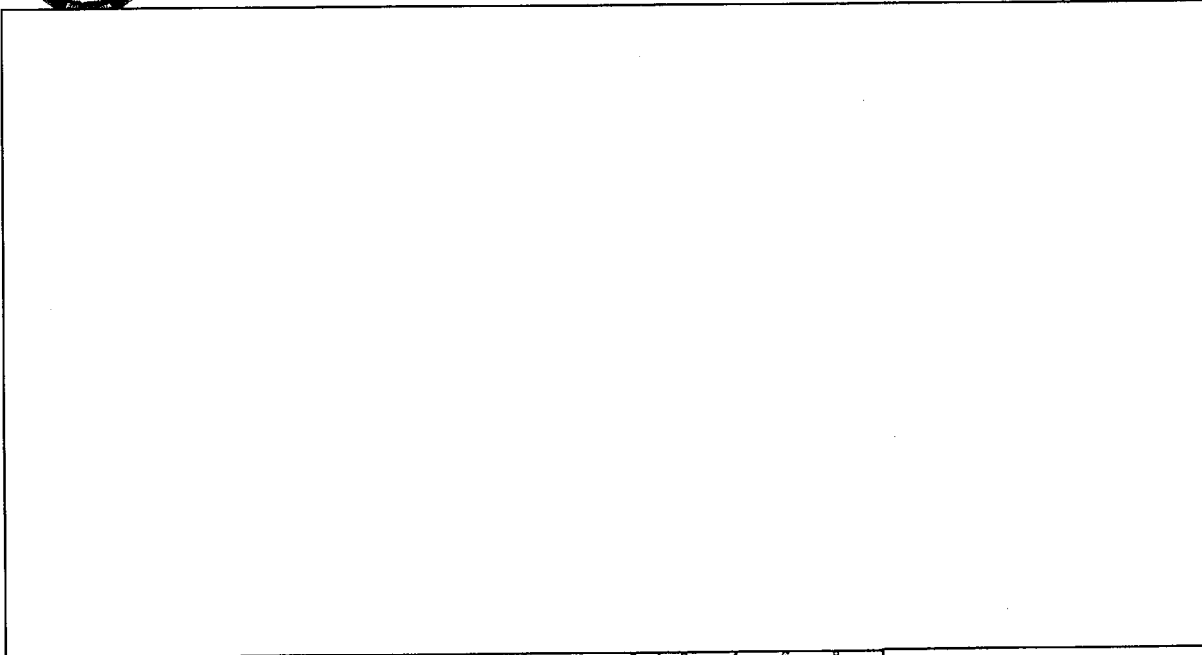


Author: IA [redacted]
Source Comment [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only

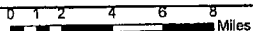


b6
b7C



b7E

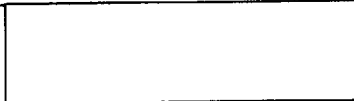
GEO: IVO 324912N/8339632W
15 December 2008

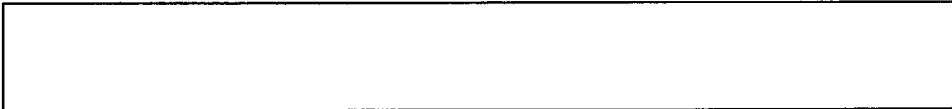


Author: I/ [redacted]
Source Comment: [redacted]

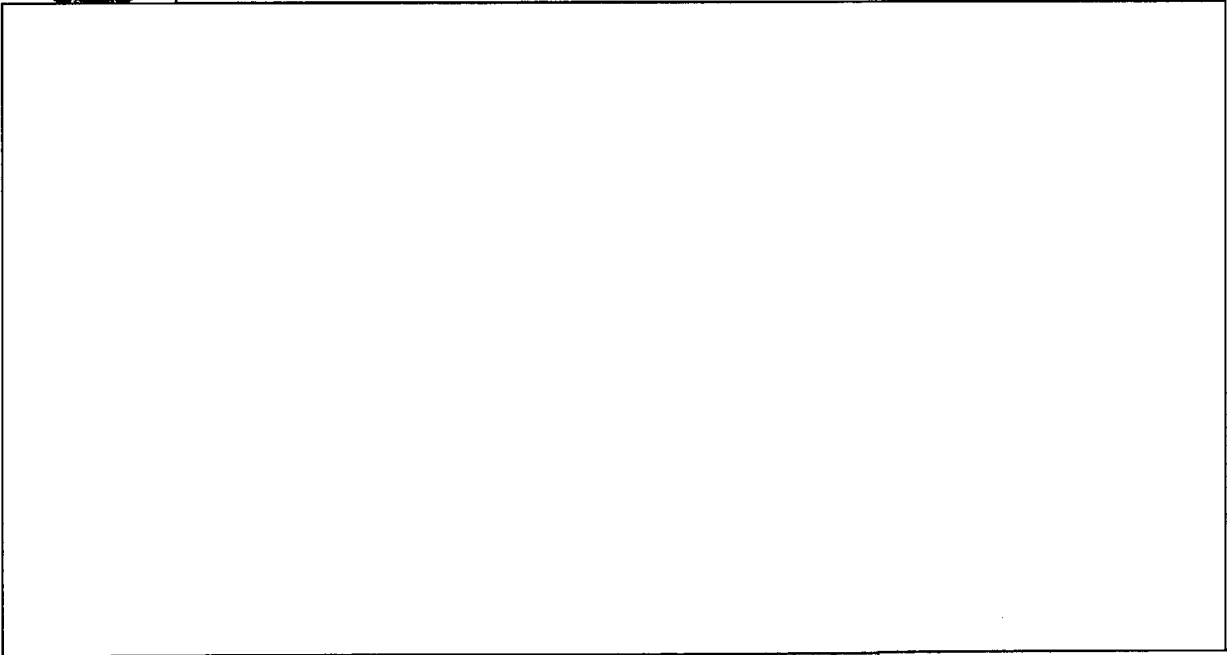
b6
b7c

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only



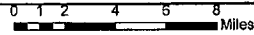


b7E



GEO: IVO 320255N/8106177W
15 December 2008

b6
b7C



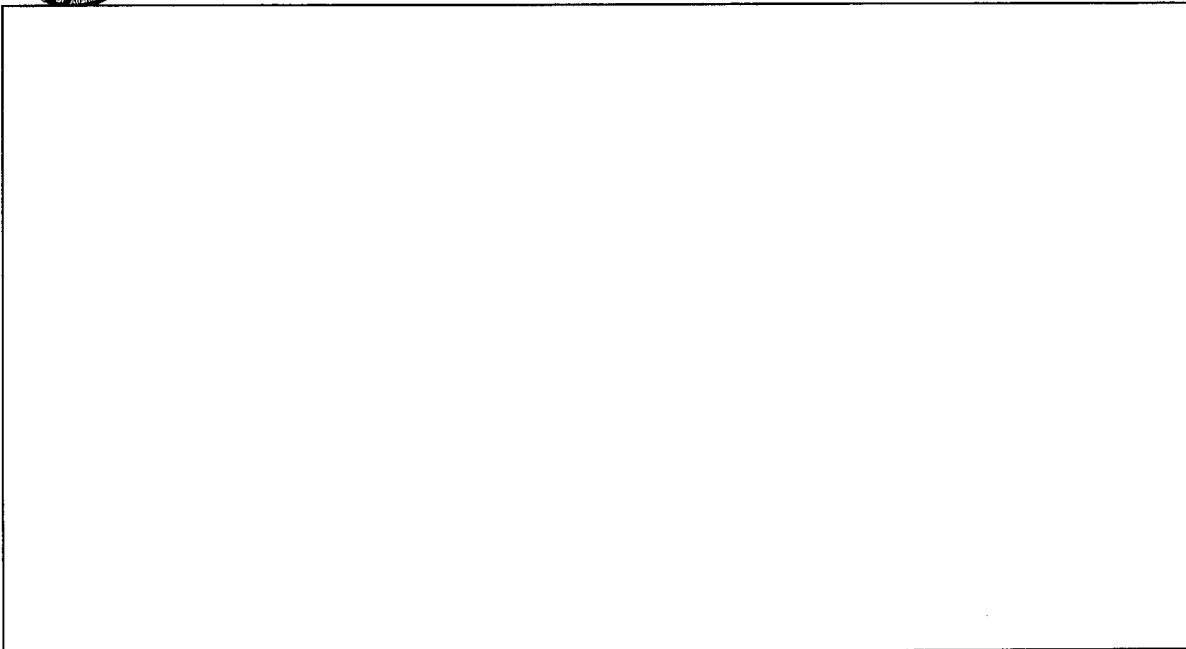
Author: IA [redacted]
Source Comment: [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only





b7E



GEO: 304833N/8311308W
15 December 2008

b6
b7C

00.51 2 3 4
Miles

Author: [redacted]
Source Comment: [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED // For Official Use Only

