

UNCLASSIFIED

(E1)

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ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	ACQ-00	INL-00	DODE-00	DS-00	FBIE-00
	VC-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01
	DCP-01	NSAE-00	DHS-00	ACE-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-01
	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/004W			

-----566850 152157Z /38

RELEASED IN PART
B7(E), B1, 1.4(D)

P 152157Z APR 03
 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6729
 INFO DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHDC PRIORITY
 DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC PRIORITY
 DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
 CIA WASHDC PRIORITY
 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC//NSC// PRIORITY
 ALL US CONSULATES IN MEXICO COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 003206

DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/MEX, WHA/PPC AND L/LEI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/15/2013
 TAGS: PREL, PINS, KJUS, MX
 SUBJECT: MEDIA HAMMERS U.S. ON ALLEGED PURCHASE OF DATABASE
 INFORMATION

CLASSIFIED BY: A/DCM ROBYN BISHOP. REASONS: 1.5(B)(D).

1. (U) THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE - SEE PARA 5.
2. (SBU) IN THE LAST THREE DAYS, LOCAL MEDIA HAVE RUN FRONT-PAGE STORIES ON THE ALLEGED PURCHASE BY ATLANTA-BASED CHOICEPOINT OF THE FEDERAL ELECTORAL INSTITUTE'S (IFE) ELECTORAL REGISTRY THAT INCLUDES 60 MILLION MEXICAN VOTERS' DATA, AND ANOTHER DATABASE WITH INFORMATION ON SIX MILLION DRIVERS LICENSES FROM MEXICO CITY. THE MIAMI HERALD RAN A STORY ON THE SAME ISSUE ON APRIL 14 INDICATING THAT THE DATA MINING FIRM HAS PURCHASED SIMILAR "OFFICIALS" RECORDS FROM A NUMBER OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES. MEXICAN EDITORIALS HAVE DECRIED THE ALLEGED SALE OF INFORMATION TO THE AMERICAN COMPANY, SPINNING CONSPIRACY THEORIES ABOUT THE INFORMATION'S LIKELY USE AND MISUSE BY THE CIA, FBI, AND DEA. ON APRIL 14, THE IFE FILED A FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST THE "TO BE DETERMINED" OFFICIAL(S) RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SALE OF THE INFORMATION. PROMINENT MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE BEGUN TO SPEAK OUT NEGATIVELY ON THE ISSUE. SO FAR THE MEDIA IS THE MAIN ARENA FOR THE STORY, BUT A POTENTIAL FIRESTORM MAY BE BREWING.

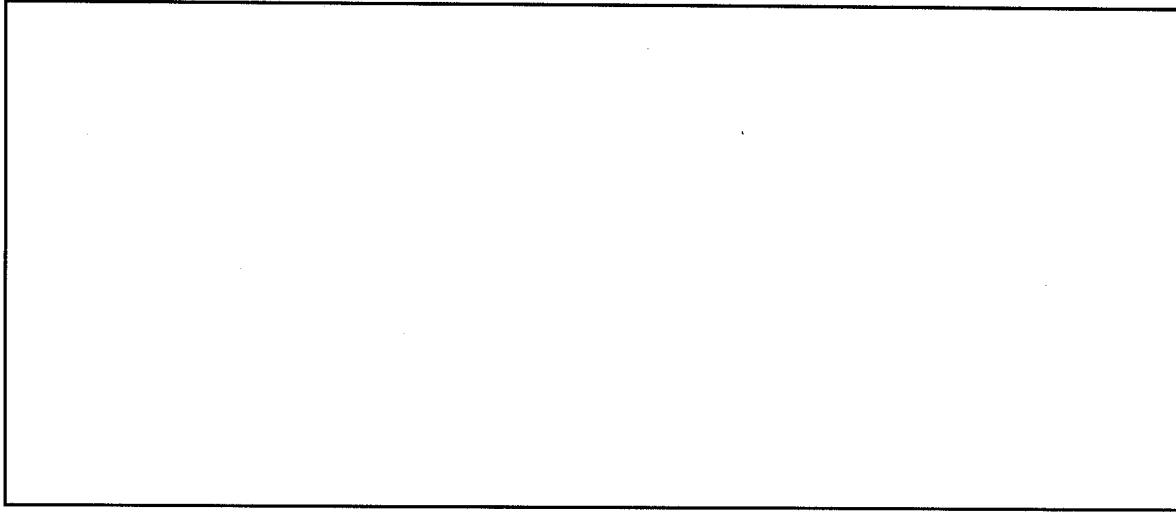
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON
 DATE/CASE ID: 20 NOV 2003 200301593

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 CONFIDENTIAL

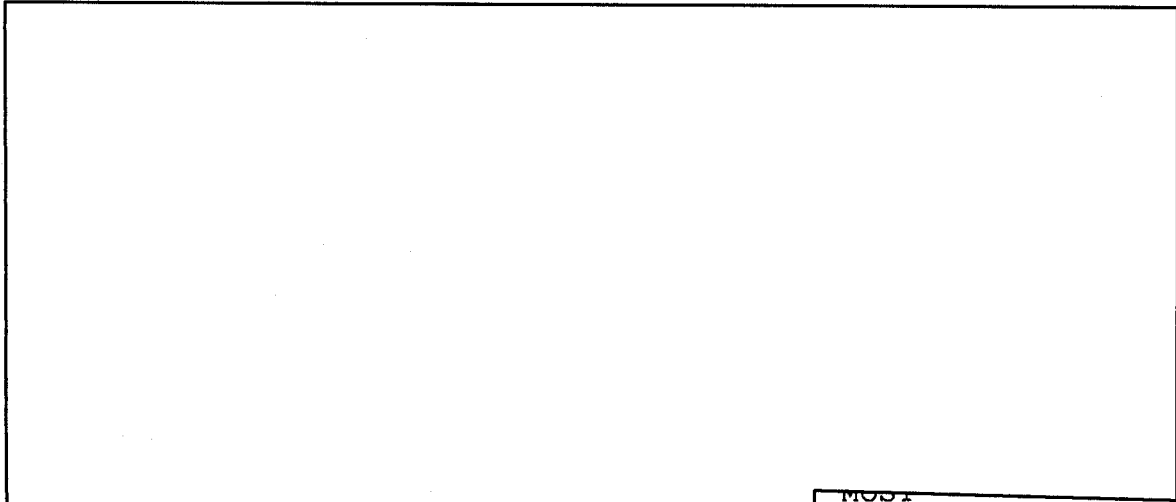
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3. (U) ON APRIL 15, MILENIO NEWSPAPER RAN AN INTERVIEW WITH JAMES LEE, SPOKESMAN FOR CHOICEPOINT, IN WHICH LEE AFFIRMED THAT USG AGENCIES REGULARLY USE CHOICEPOINT INFORMATION FOR FIGHTING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND TERRORISM.



B1



B7(E)

IMPORTANTLY, EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE FOR PRESS INQUIRES.
GARZA

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