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OCA 1859-93
7 July 1993

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Senator John Kerry (D-MA) Staffers on NAFTA and its effects on the Narcotics Trade

1. On Thursday, 10 June 1993 at 1345 hours in 413 Russell Senate Office Building, Senator John Kerry (D-MA) Staffers Jonathan Winer and Bill Woodward met with CIA analysts to discuss the implications of NAFTA on cross border narcotics trade between the US and Mexico. Present from the CIA were: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

The meeting had been requested by Winer who believed the agreement might lead to increased drug trade. The briefing was done at the [Redacted] level.

2. In summary [Redacted] opened the meeting with a detailed overview of what NAFTA would mean in terms of trade, tariffs, and economic policy to both countries. For Mexico, it would definitely add to the industrial economy, although farming was considered vulnerable to superior American techniques. Both doubted the dire predictions of economic loss for the US, but admitted they had not studied the issue given our charter to look only at foreign issues. [Redacted] then added the political view that the Salinas government was now proceeding cautiously in its support of the NAFTA pact waiting the outcome in the US. Salinas wanted political room to move if the pact failed to be passed in the US. [Redacted] noted that the pact would have little impact on the flourishing drug trade with drug organizations already freely moving drugs across the open border and transferring funds [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

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3. The meeting closed at 1630 hours with Winer and Woodward pronouncing themselves pleased with our detailed analysis of the issue and promising the Senator would explore the issue further with us when NAFTA came up in the fall before Congress.