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From: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) on behalf of WATCH CBP INTEL
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Sent: Friday, February 15, 2019 12:47 PM

To: WATCH CBP INTEL

Subject: (U//FOUO) Central American Caravans and Migration Crisis Flow - Update 41

Attachments: image011.wmz; image013.wmz; Central American Caravans and Migration Crisis Flow Update 41.pdf; Combined Caravan Map for Display Purposes Update 41.pdf

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U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Customs and Border Protection

CARAVAN AND MIGRANT CRISIS FLOW UPDATE

(b) (7)(E)

15 February 2019

(U//LES) **Coahuila Officials Plan to Vacate Shelter**

(U//LES) **Current Update #41:**

(U//LES) In addition to movements from the January 2019 Caravan^[1], CBP is monitoring the movement of two other large groups of migrants currently in Mexico, totaling 15,124 migrants, as well as the possible formation of new caravans in Honduras and El Salvador. The January 2019 migrant caravan totaled 3,345 while passing through Guatemala. The second group totaling 11,183, the majority of whom have registered for humanitarian visitor cards, constitutes the migrant crisis flow^[2]. The third group consists of the remaining members of the October 2018 caravan waiting in Mexicali (100) and Tijuana (496).^[1] As the migrants move through Mexico, the various groups are becoming intermingled, challenging efforts to distinguish between specific group locations.

- (U//LES) As commercial buses continued to transport caravan migrants to Hermosillo, Reynosa, and Monterrey yesterday, Coahuila state officials expressed their desire for all migrants to leave Piedras Negras by 16 February, according to CBP information. Mexican Federal Police (PF) reiterated the plan to move PF forces to Tijuana on 18 or 19 February once all caravan migrants have left Piedras Negras.^[iii] The Coahuila state governor stated yesterday that the Piedras Negras shelter would be closing within a week, as the government will have completed issuing humanitarian visitor cards to migrants, eliminating their need for detention, according to open source information.
- (U//LES) Approximately 480 migrants departed Celaya, Guanajuato state aboard eight buses for Abasolo, Guanajuato escorted by multiple Mexican agencies, according to CBP information.^[iii] The westward route from Celaya indicates this initial group will likely travel the same route through Jalisco and Sinaloa states that the October 2018 used to reach Baja California. Separately, 2,493 migrants were in Mexico City as of 14 February.

- (U//LES) CBP reporting indicates that approximately 1,258 migrants have been detained near the Darien region in Panama as part of a group that plans to migrate to the United States through Central America.

(U//LES) January 2019 Caravan:

(U//LES) The caravan, which formed and departed from Honduras and El Salvador between 14 and 16 January, was estimated to be 3,345 people before Mexican officials began deporting migrants from Piedras Negras, according to CBP reporting. Approximately 2,000 caravan migrants arrived to Piedras Negras, Coahuila state as of 7 February, while the remainder who initially paused in Ciudad Hidalgo for humanitarian visitor cards are likely interspersed with the migration crisis flow. Of the approximately 2,000 migrants who have arrived to Piedras Negras, **1,543 remained in the shelter as of 13 February**. The remainder are likely in hotels or private homes offering to shelter migrants. **Caravan migrants will likely depart the Piedras Negras shelter and disperse to search for the quickest and most efficient method of claiming asylum in the United States.**

- (U//LES) **INM delivered 343 humanitarian visitor cards of the 1,421 registrations in Piedras Negras as of 14 February.**^[iv]

(U//LES) Possible New Caravan Formation

(U//LES) **Approximately 1,258 migrants—including 682 Cuban and 220 Haitian nationals—are currently detained in the Darien region of Panama, according to the CBP Attaché in Panama. The majority are detained in Puerto Obaldia near the northern Panamanian border with Colombia. Approximately 800 to 1,200 additional migrants are in on the border in Colombia waiting to cross into Panama, according to unconfirmed reporting from Colombian immigration officials.^[v] Colombia's immigration chief confirmed that there has been an increased flow of undocumented migrants from Colombia to Panama, according to open source information.** CBP is tracking social media posts for two new possible caravans forming in Honduras and El Salvador. The potential Honduran caravan—estimated at 1,500 participants—is set to depart on 16 February and another possible caravan departing El Salvador is scheduled for 16 February, according to social media. **A group of approximately 50 migrants departed San Salvador yesterday aboard a bus to Guatemala, possibly as part of the advertised 14 February caravan. CBP will monitor for any indications of large migrant groups departing El Salvador today and report appropriately.**

(U//LES) Migration Crisis Flow

(U//LES) INM has registered 11,183 migrants that CBP considers part of the migration crisis flow. GoM officials stopped registering migrants after acknowledging that the humanitarian visitor card created a pull factor, leading to unsustainable concentrations of migrants at the border, challenging Mexico's capacity to process humanitarian visitor cards and shelter migrants, according to Department of State and open source information.^{[vi],[vii]} INM has stated that they will continue to process migrants through the Border Worker Visitor Card and the Regional Visitor Card, which the GoM will extend beyond the current countries of Guatemala and Belize to include Honduras and El Salvador, according to open source information.^[viii]

- (U//LES) **INM delivered 1,499 humanitarian visitor cards out of the 1,746 registrations in Mexico City as of 14 February.**^[ix]

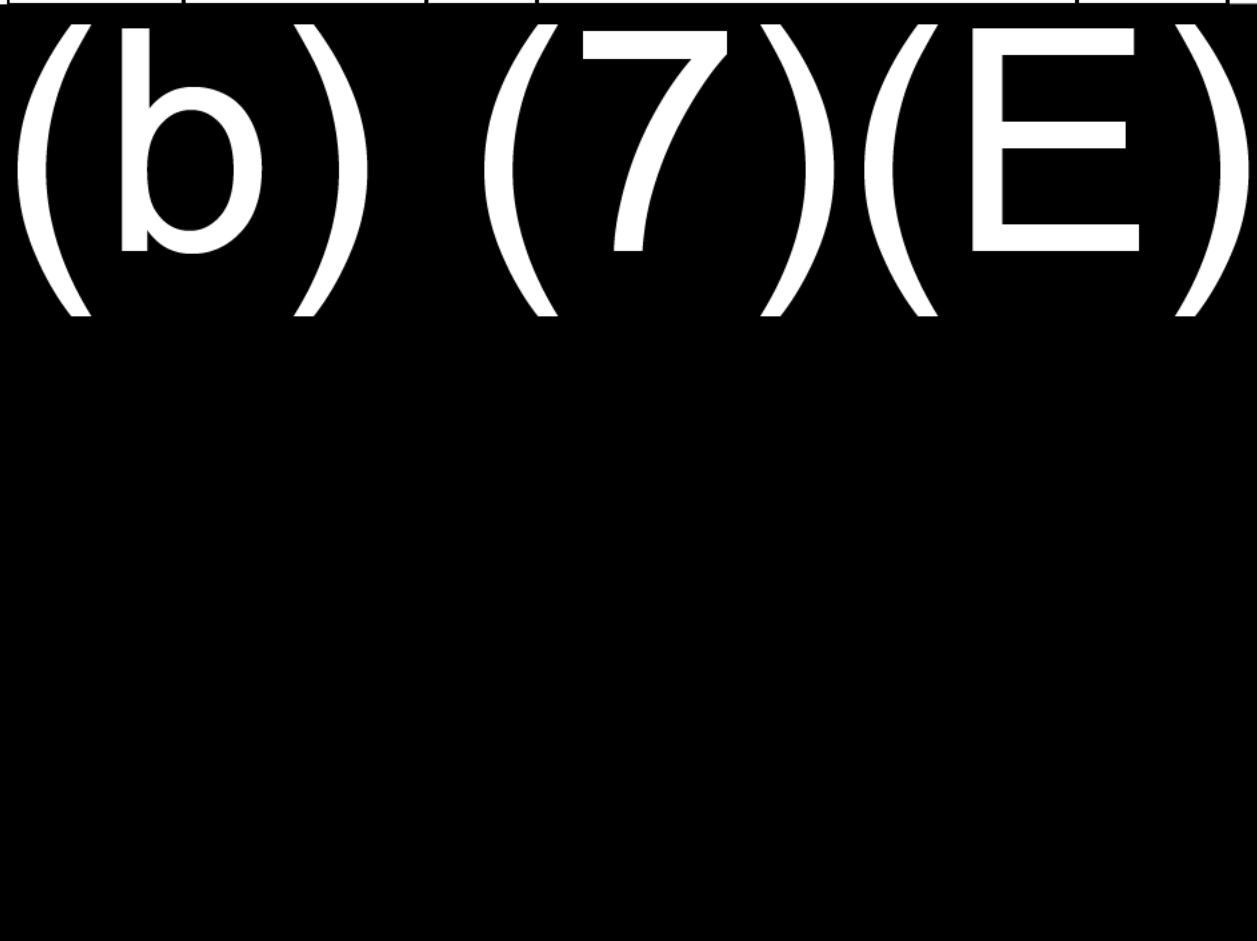
(U//LES) October 2018 caravan:

(U//LES) The October 2018 caravan, formed between 13 and 21 October 2018 in Honduras, was composed of 496 migrants in Tijuana, Mexico and 100 migrants in Mexicali, Mexico as of 4 February, according to INM—down from an estimated 8,000 migrants on 24 November 2018. CBP has apprehended or deemed inadmissible **4,341 migrants as of 13 February**.

- (U//LES) Tijuana, Baja California reported 496 migrants, of which 357 are in different shelters throughout the city. On 29 January, 139 migrants were displaced from El Barretal when Mexican officials closed the shelter, leaving them to find other accommodations.

CBP Office of Intelligence Migrant Caravan Priority Intelligence Requirements	
PIR	Update in this Feature
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Migrant Group	Formation	Size	Description	Location	Destination
Group 1 October Caravan	13-21 October Honduras	~596	Majority Honduran with some Guatemalan and Salvadoran	Tijuana (496) Mexicali (100)	U.S.
Group 2 Migration Crisis Flow	16 January to present	11,183	Honduran, Salvadoran, Guatemalan, very few Nicaraguan, Haitian, Cuban, Angolan, and Brazilian	Guanajuato (~570) CDMX (~2,500)	Mexico, U.S.
Group 3 January Caravan	14-16 January Honduras, El Salvador	Originally ~3,345	Central American	Piedras Negras (~1,543)	U.S.



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(U) Source Summary Statement

(U//FOUO) This Warning Update is based on reporting from open source media, U.S. Embassy Mexico City, CBP Mexico Country Team, and the Government of Mexico. We have medium confidence in the locational data of the different camps, and on overall numbers given the evolving nature of the situation and fragmented movement of the migrants.

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