

1 investigations.

2 Q. While you worked for these various cartels, you've become
3 aware that these cartels had made payments all the way up to
4 the chain almost to the president of Mexico; is that right?

5 A. That's correct, sir.

6 Q. And that's how these cartels conducted business in Mexico,
7 correct?

8 A. That is how they do it, sir.

9 Q. Now, there came a point in time when Arturo was using
10 offshore power boats to move product; is that right?

11 A. That's correct, sir.

12 Q. Submarines as well; is that right?

13 A. That's correct, sir.

14 Q. And these boats would meet vessels in international
15 waters, and they would load up the cocaine and bring it to the
16 shore; is that right?

17 A. That's correct, sir.

18 Q. And within a period of six or seven months, a lot of these
19 vessels were being seized; is that right?

20 A. Some, yes, but actually, I couldn't tell you for sure, sir.

21 Q. Okay. Well, do you remember on February 19th of 2015 that
22 you had a meeting with the people that I just talked about,
23 and you told them there was a period of six to seven months
24 where numerous go-fast boats as well as semi-submersibles were
25 seized by the U.S. government while en route to Mexico with

1 cocaine loads. Do you remember saying that?

2 A. That's correct, sir.

3 Q. And what I want to know is, these were seizures that were
4 by the United States, by the DEA, and not by any Mexican
5 police; isn't that true?

6 A. That's correct, sir. They were in international waters.
7 In Mexico, there were no seizures because of the corruption.

8 Q. No, I understand that, and that's the point I'm trying to
9 make.

10 THE COURT: He made it for you.

11 MR. LOPEZ: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: Move on.

13 BY MR. LOPEZ:

14 Q. So Arturo was concerned that there was a leak in the
15 organization; is that right?

16 A. That's correct, sir.

17 Q. And he directed El Borrado to talk to Luis Cardenas
18 Palomino about that problem; isn't that right?

19 A. That's correct, sir.

20 Q. And there was a meeting that was called at the place you
21 previously described as Mi Ranchito. Do you remember that?

22 A. That's correct, sir.

23 Q. And that was in Cuernavaca near Mexico City, correct?

24 A. Yes, the second meeting, yes, sir.

25 Q. And present at the meeting were Cardenas Palomino, Arturo,

1 Borrado, Mario Pineda Villa -- you also would call him "MP,"
2 correct?

3 A. Mario Pineda Villa was not at the second meeting, sir.

4 Q. I'm talking about, after El Borrado asked Palomino for
5 assistance, there was a meeting. That's what you told the
6 DEA, right?

7 A. At the first meeting, yes, sir.

8 Q. And at that meeting, there was another person, the
9 nickname Conejo, C-o-n-e-j-o. Do you remember him?

10 A. Yes, possibly he was there. I don't remember right now
11 exactly.

12 Q. Would you like to see a copy of the statement which you
13 gave to the DEA to help you refresh your recollection?

14 A. Yes, sir.

15 MR. LOPEZ: Judge, I'm going to mark this as Azarte
16 1.

17 Judge, I'm going to direct him and maybe --

18 THE COURT: Yes, direct him.

19 MR. LOPEZ: It's in English, so can the interpreter
20 interpret for him --

21 THE COURT: If he needs help.

22 BY MR. LOPEZ:

23 Q. Can you read English?

24 A. No, sir. I don't read or speak English, sir.

25 Q. So would you need the interpreter to help you read -- to

1 interpret it for you?

2 A. Yes, please.

3 MR. LOPEZ: Okay. Judge, I'm going to -- I've
4 already talked to the government.

5 I'm going to direct the interpreter to, if you could
6 just -- if you could just interpret that box.

7 THE INTERPRETER: Translate that for him right now?

8 MR. LOPEZ: Not on the record.

9 (Translation off the record.)

10 BY MR. LOPEZ:

11 Q. All right. Is your memory refreshed?

12 A. That's correct, sir.

13 Q. So Conejo was at the meeting, correct?

14 A. Possibly, sir, as I mentioned there.

15 Q. Now, at that meeting, Cardenas Palomino told the group
16 that he had spoken to his compadre, Genaro Garcia Luna?

17 A. That's correct, sir.

18 Q. And he had been informed that there was a Colombian
19 informant working within the Beltran Leyva cartel?

20 A. That's correct, sir.

21 Q. And then Cardenas Palomino provided the informant's name
22 and nickname; is that right?

23 A. That's correct, sir.

24 Q. And this is the same Colombian informant that was later
25 murdered; is that right?

1 A. That's correct, sir.

2 Q. And during your interview on February 19th, 2015, you told
3 the DEA that according to Cardenas Palomino that Garcia Luna
4 had obtained this information from Garza Palacios. Do you
5 remember that?

6 A. That's correct, sir.

7 Q. Who you might -- who you think is Francisco Javier Garza
8 Palacios, correct?

9 A. That's correct, sir.

10 Q. Who was a Mexican federal police officer stationed in
11 Bogota?

12 A. That's correct, sir.

13 Q. And then after learning the identity of the informant,
14 Borrado ordered El Panchito to go get the informant and bring
15 him to him; is that right?

16 A. That's correct, sir.

17 Q. And the informant was taken from Cuernavaca by Borrado and
18 MP?

19 A. They were in the city of Cuernavaca, the informant.

20 Q. But they took him, right, and tortured him?

21 A. That's correct, sir.

22 Q. And you learned that the informant admitted he'd been
23 arrested in Miami and was cooperating?

24 A. That's correct, sir.

25 Q. And Arturo took all the informant's properties?

1 A. That's correct, sir.

2 Q. And then he killed him or he had him killed?

3 A. That's correct, sir.

4 Q. You didn't know the informant, did you, or did you?

5 A. No, sir.

6 Q. You had never met him?

7 A. No, sir, not that I remember, no.

8 Q. You weren't present when the informant was killed, were
9 you?

10 A. I was not present, sir.

11 THE COURT: How much more do you have?

12 MR. LOPEZ: A couple more minutes.

13 THE COURT: A couple minutes?

14 MR. LOPEZ: Yes. Do you want to take a break?

15 THE COURT: No. If it's only a few minutes, let's
16 finish it. Then we'll take a short break.

17 BY MR. LOPEZ:

18 Q. Sir, after the informant was killed, no more boats were
19 stopped; is that right?

20 A. No, sir, not that I know of, no.

21 Q. Now, do you remember, you came -- that you had an
22 interview here in this building on August 20th, 2018?

23 A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. And you were shown a photograph. Do you remember that?

25 A. Yes, sir.