

Organization Attributes Sheet: La Resistencia (The Resistance)

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A. When the organization was formed + brief history
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• After the death of Juan Ignacio ‘Nacho’ Coronel Villarreal in July of 2010¹ the remaining cells of the Milenio organization (which was working with the Sinaloa organization) separated into two groups: La Resistencia and Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion (CJNG).• A person known as “El Melon” and Víctor Manuel Torres García, with the aid of La Familia and the Gulf organization, began a coordinated effort, under the name of La Resistencia, to reestablish the amphetamine corridor along the Michoacán, Jalisco, Colima and Nayarit smuggling corridor which began being disputed by the CJNG and Los Zetas.²• Since then, a violent turf war emerged in Jalisco to control the pseudoephedrine coming from Asia into the port of Manzanillo in Colima, as well as other smuggling routes and illicit merchandise.³
B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Drug precursors trafficking, drug trafficking, extortion.
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trafficking of cocaine and precursor chemicals through Jalisco, Nayarit, and Colima.⁴
C. Scope and Size
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are no clear estimates on the size of the organization, but since it is formed from three different groups (Milenio, La Familia and Gulf) it could be a fairly large organization.
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group’s operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jalisco, Nayarit, Colima, Michoacan and Estado de Mexico in Mexico⁵
D. Leader Characteristics
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The remaining current leader of the organization is known as “El Melon”• Víctor Manuel Torres García (AKA: “El Papirrín”) (detained in February 2010).⁶
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This group was formed in 2010. So far the only information available suggests that after the death of “Nacho Coronel”, Torres García - who used to work for the Beltran Leyva Organization, then for Orlando Nava Valencia aka “El Lobo Valencia” (arrested in 2009) - and “El Melon” joined forces with La Familia and the Gulf Cartel to reestablish the organization.⁷
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
E. Organizational Structure
a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network? What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.
c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information not found.

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

F. Resources	
a. Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to Torres García's affidavit before the Ministry of Public Safety, La Familia Templar provided financial resources so la Resistencia could began operating throughout the region.⁸
b. Human	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to videos released by members of this group, incoming personnel are trained in military tactics.⁹
c. Logistical	
i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Torres Garcia also declared that the financial resources provided by La Familia were used to rent out safe houses in their territories.¹⁰
ii. Key routes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
d. Transportation	
i. Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
ii. Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Port of Manzanillo
iii. Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
iv. Intermodal container	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities	
a. Corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of bribing and corrupting official, La Resistencia has been using intimidation as the main form of getting local and state officials to let them operate. Examples of this are the grenade attacks on the Chapala municipality¹¹.
b. Concealment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other than using full tactical gear with masks to conceal their identities and the use of safe houses, it is unclear what other methods the group uses to conceal its operations.
c. Deception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
d. Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
H. Prior / Existing Relationships	
a. Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Resistencia has a strategic alliance with la Familia and the Gulf Cartel.¹² The group's main enemies are the Cartel de Jalisco Nueva Generacion and Los Zetas.¹³
b. Corrupt politicians, law enforcement, political parties and other state entities, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of corrupting law enforcement officials this groups tends to intimidate them.
c. <i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sources indicate any current or past dealings with terrorist groups.
I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
J. Technical Sophistication	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This group has relied heavily on uploading videos to the Internet to state its position on law

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enforcement activities in the area, as well as to threaten Cartel del Jalisco and Los Zetas operatives. ¹⁴
K. Penchant for Innovation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
L. Activities in United States
<p>a. Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No indication of U.S operations could be found.
<p>b. <i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>c. Linkages with US groups</p> <p>i. Market/transaction links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>ii. Stable supplier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>iii. Franchise arrangement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
<p>iv. HQ and Branch office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information not found.
M. Evaluations
<p>a. Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main strength is the support of bigger organizations like La Familia and the Gulf Cartel.
<p>b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The violent tactics have attracted federal and state law enforcement attention which has slowed down the organization's effort to establish territorial control.
<p>c. Additional insights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Although this organization has managed to gain support from major organizations, it seems that it is unable to fill the power vacuum left by "Nacho Coronel". It is plausible that under pressure from law enforcement agencies and rival groups the organization might be inclined to engage in riskier activities to obtain financial resources to buttress the fight for control.
Other Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">

¹ "Jalisco, Nayarit, and Colima: Betrayal Brews Narco-Violence in these 3 states" *Borderland Beat* February 7, 2011. <http://www.borderlandbeat.com/2011/02/jalisco-nayarit-y-colima-betrayel-brews.html> (May 18, 2011).

² García Solís Georgina, "La Resistencia y cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación se disputan la plaza: Nájera", *La Jornada de Jalisco*, January 11th, 2011, <http://www.lajornadajalisco.com.mx/2011/01/29/index.php?section=politica&article=006n1pol>

³García Solís, Georgina "La Resistencia y los Zetas se disputan la plaza de Jalisco", *La Jornada de Jalisco*, July 26th 2010, <http://www.lajornadajalisco.com.mx/2010/07/26/index.php?section=politica&article=005n1pol>

⁴ "Jalisco, Nayarit, and Colima" <http://www.borderlandbeat.com/2011/02/jalisco-nayarit-y-colima-betrayel-brews.html> (May 18, 2011).

⁵ El Universal, "Cae El Papirrin presunto líder de La Resistencia", February 28th, 2011 <http://www.eluniversal.com.mx/notas/748158.html>

⁶ CNN Español, “Uno de los líderes de la banda “la Resistencia” es detenido en Michoacan”, February 28th, 2011, <http://mexico.cnn.com/nacional/2011/02/28/uno-de-los-lideres-de-la-banda-la-resistencia-es-detenido-en-michoacan>

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ “Capturan al “Papirrin” uno de los mas buscados por el CJNG, y líder de la Resistencia” October 22nd, 2010, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUMDK9kgI00>

⁹ “Adiestran a sicarios de La Resistencia”, February 3rd, 2011, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqKn8IC3AaA&feature=related>

¹⁰ “Capturan al “Papirrin” uno de los mas buscados por el CJNG, y líder de la Resistencia”, Op. Cit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zUMDK9kgI00>

¹¹ El Universal, “At Least Three Killed in Attacks on Police in Jalisco”, January 17th, 2011, LAP20110117036006

¹² García Solís Georgina, “La Resistencia y cártel de Jalisco Nueva Generación se disputan la plaza: Nájera” Op. Cit.

¹³ García Solís, Georgina “La Resistencia y los Zetas se disputan la plaza de Jalisco” Op Cit.

¹⁴ “La Resistencia contracomunicado al cartel de jalisco <http://tu.tv/videos/la-resistencia-contracomunicado-al-carte>