

## Organization Attributes Sheet: Lobato Gang

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<b>A. When the organization was formed + brief history</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>It is not known when the organization was formed. The groups was rounded up and arrested in the first half of 2009.<sup>1</sup></li></ul>
<b>B. Types of illegal activities engaged in,</b>
a. In general
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Smuggling</li><li>The group engaged in tax evasion by failing to pay customs duties on non-contraband goods.<sup>2</sup></li></ul>
b. <i>Specific detail: types of illicit trafficking activities engaged in</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The group smuggled goods back and forth between Suriname and Brazil. Nonperishable food was shipped to Suriname, and then the boats were loaded with Chinese and other contraband goods for the return journey to Brazil.<sup>3</sup> Drugs were found on at least one of these boats.<sup>4</sup></li></ul>
<b>C. Scope and Size</b>
a. Estimated size of network and membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Brazilian authorities arrested or investigated 15 possible members.<sup>5</sup></li></ul>
b. Countries / regions group is known to have operated in. (i.e. the group's operating area)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Suriname, Brazil</li></ul>
<b>D. Leader Characteristics</b>
a. Who is/are the leader(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rosinaldo Sampaio Lobato, aka Didi, 47 at the time of arrest, was in charge of the larger operation, although, his family was only directly in control of the Aliança port in the neighborhood of Jurunas in Belem, Brazil.<sup>6</sup></li><li>Maria Suely Correa Lobato, the wife of Rosinaldo Sampaio Lobato, might have been in charge of maintaining contacts and negotiating with the suppliers in China and Suriname.<sup>7</sup></li><li>Another person, known only as "Marlon," was also said to be in charge of coordinating with Chinese and Surinamese traders.<sup>8</sup></li><li>Manoel de Jesus Ferreira Quaresma, aka Jesus or Geso, was the head of the Lent family that was in control of the Jesus port in the neighborhood of Jurunas in Belem, Brazil.<sup>9</sup> He was also in charge of transporting goods to southeastern Brazil via roadways.<sup>10</sup></li><li>Oswaldo de Jesus Moraes Barra led a third family.<sup>11</sup> The Barras owned the boat, Novo Brasil, on which between 10 and 13,000 ecstasy pills were discovered, in addition to a large amount of contraband car parts and consumer goods.<sup>12</sup></li></ul>
b. Leadership timeline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
c. Leadership style (autocratic, diffuse, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
<b>E. Organizational Structure</b>
a. Topology (cellular, hierarchical, etc.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Information not found.</li></ul>
b. Membership – is there formal or informal membership in the organization or network?

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

What role do informal or nonmembers play in trafficking and other criminal activities?

- It seems that the Brazilian Federal Police treated this as a formal organization led by Rosinaldo Sampaio Lobato. However, this does not indicate how the people involved in the conspiracy viewed their participation, whether as members of an organization or participants in a transient set of business transactions.

c. Command and Control (decentralized or centralized)

- The identification of Rosinaldo Sampaio Lobato as the head of the group suggests that there was centralized command and control, but is not clear to what degree other participants were free to act on their own initiative.

**F. Resources**

a. Financial

- The Lobato family had tens of thousands of dollars of currency in their home at the time of their arrest.<sup>13</sup>

b. Human

- Most of the people involved were middle aged, and owned property and businesses.<sup>14</sup>

c. Logistical

i. Forgery, safe-houses, etc.

- The organization had warehouses in several different harbors in Belem, as well as other cities along the Amazon River.<sup>15</sup> There was also a warehouse in Paramaribo.<sup>16</sup>

ii. Key routes

- The contraband was received on medium sized boats in Suriname, and then shipped off the coast of northeastern Brazil, where it was transferred onto fishing boats or other ships to be taken into Belem or further up the Amazon.<sup>17</sup> Once received at a Brazilian port, some of the goods would be taken by land route to cities in southeastern Brazil, like Sao Paulo.<sup>18</sup>

d. Transportation

i. Land

- Trucks

ii. Sea

- Medium sized cargo boats and small fishing boats

iii. Air

- Information not found.

iv. Intermodal container

- Information not found.

**G. Trafficking Methods and Modalities**

a. Corruption

- Information not found.

b. Concealment

- The goods do not seem to have been concealed

c. Deception

- It seems that by using smaller fishing boats to take the goods into Belem and other Brazilian ports, the group was trying to hide the nature of its operation so it could both circumvent taxes and bring in drugs.

d. Circumvention (avoiding border entry points)

- One of the main purposes of the group was to avoid import taxes, which it did by simply failing to pay the required taxes.<sup>19</sup>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.

All research conducted according to the project manual.

<b>H. Prior / Existing Relationships</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Other criminal organizations (cooperative and conflictual) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is implied that the group had some connection with Chinese smugglers, possibly in Sao Paulo.<sup>20</sup> Later in 2009, a Chinese man from Sao Paulo was accused of smuggling goods from Suriname, when he traveled to Para state to check on a shipment.<sup>21</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Corrupt politicians, law enforcement , political parties and other state entities, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. <i>Specific detail: Any alliances / past dealings with terrorist groups.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>I. Ideological / Ethnic / Familial Orientation (if any)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It appears that the different groups within the larger group were organized around family relations, for instance, the Lobato family, the Barra family, and the Quaresma family.</li> </ul>
<b>J. Technical Sophistication</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>K. Penchant for Innovation</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul>
<b>L. Activities in United States</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Includes both criminal and non-criminal activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. <i>Specific detail: trafficking activities ; logistical activities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Linkages with US groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Market/transaction links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>ii. Stable supplier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iii. Franchise arrangement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> <li>iv. HQ and Branch office <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information not found.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>M. Evaluations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A network capable of moving tons of illegal goods to markets throughout Brazil and Suriname.</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. Weaknesses and vulnerabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the main participants have been arrested at least once, making future activities more difficult to conceal.</li> </ul> </li> <li>c. Additional insights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Other Notes</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This template incorporates another assigned group that we were calling the Jose Anselmo dos Santos Trafficking Ring, for lack of a better name. It turns out that Jose Anselmo dos Santos was just a mule,<sup>22</sup> and that the boat he was found on belonged to one of the leaders of the Lobato gang. For this reason, and because no further information was available about Jose Anselmo dos Santos that would point towards a separate group, I have used only this one template for the two assigned groups.</li> </ul>

Information derived from several sources and searchable databases.  
All research conducted according to the project manual.

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- <sup>1</sup> “Operação Pindorama já prendeu 14 em três meses,” *Diario do Para*, June 20, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-48585-OPERACAO+PINDORAMA+JA+PRENDEU+14+EM+TRES+MESES.html>.
- <sup>2</sup> “PF prende 13 por contrabando,” *Jornal Amazonia*, June 17, 2009. <http://www.orm.com.br/amazoniajornal/interna/default.asp?modulo=831&codigo=420219>.
- <sup>3</sup> “Receita e PF desmontam esquema de contrabando,” *Diario do Para*, June 17, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-48122.html>.
- <sup>4</sup> “Operação Pindorama já prendeu 14 em três meses,” *Diario do Para*, June 20, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-48585-OPERACAO+PINDORAMA+JA+PRENDEU+14+EM+TRES+MESES.html>.
- <sup>5</sup> “Operação da PF no Pará desarticula quadrilha acusada de contrabandar produtos do Suriname,” *O Globo*, June 16, 2009. <http://oglobo.globo.com/cidades/mat/2009/06/16/operacao-da-pf-no-para-desarticula-quadrilha-acusada-de-contrabandar-produtos-do-suriname-756363417.asp>.
- <sup>6</sup> “PF prende 13 por contrabando,” *Jornal Amazonia*, June 17, 2009. <http://www.orm.com.br/amazoniajornal/interna/default.asp?modulo=831&codigo=420219>.
- <sup>7</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>8</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>9</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>10</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>11</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>12</sup> “PF prende 13 por contrabando,” *Jornal Amazonia*, June 17, 2009. <http://www.orm.com.br/amazoniajornal/interna/default.asp?modulo=831&codigo=420219>; “Polícia Federal apreende 13 mil ecstasys em Belém,” *Diario do Para*, April 14, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-38619-POLICIA+FEDERAL+APREENDE+13+MIL+ECSTASYS+EM+BELEM.html>.
- <sup>13</sup> “Receita e PF desmontam esquema de contrabando,” *Diario do Para*, June 17, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-48122.html>.
- <sup>14</sup> “PF prende 13 por contrabando,” *Jornal Amazonia*, June 17, 2009. <http://www.orm.com.br/amazoniajornal/interna/default.asp?modulo=831&codigo=420219>.
- <sup>15</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>16</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>17</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>18</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>19</sup> “Receita e PF desmontam esquema de contrabando,” *Diario do Para*, June 17, 2009. <http://diariodopara.diarioonline.com.br/N-48122.html>.
- <sup>20</sup> “PF prende 13 por contrabando,” *Jornal Amazonia*, June 17, 2009. <http://www.orm.com.br/amazoniajornal/interna/default.asp?modulo=831&codigo=420219>; “PF prende 12 contrabandistas,” *O Liberal*, June 16, 2009. [http://www.portalorm.com.br/plantao/noticia/default.asp?id\\_noticia=420247](http://www.portalorm.com.br/plantao/noticia/default.asp?id_noticia=420247).
- <sup>21</sup> “Polícia do GCCO de Castanhal prendem contrabandistas em Belém,” *Polícia Civil do Estado do Pará*, October 19, 2009. <http://www.policiacivil.pa.gov.br/?q=node/2455>.
- <sup>22</sup> “Polícia acaba com a ‘festa,’” *Amazonia Hoje*, April 14, 2009. <http://www.fenapef.org.br/fenapef/noticia/index/21407>; “Federal Police Operation Seizes 10,000 Ecstasy Pills, Contraband in Para,” *O Liberal*, April 14, 2009, OSC: LAP20090414020003.